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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

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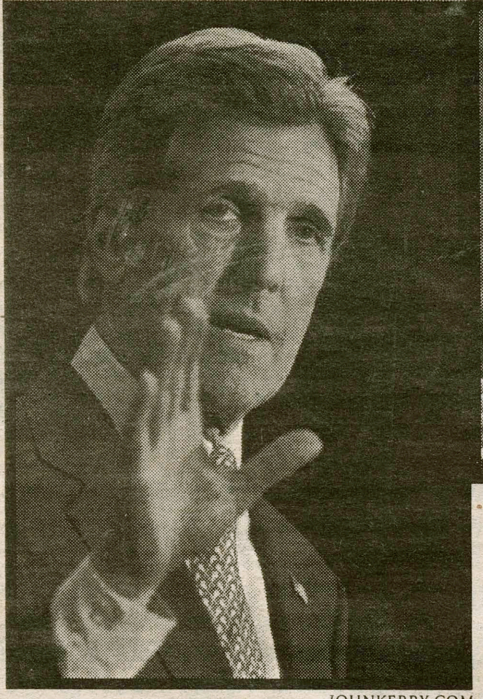

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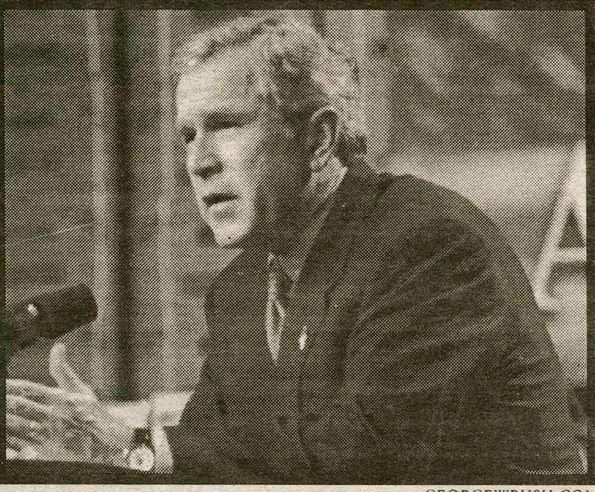

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Americans are eagerly anticipating next Tuesday's presidential election. Democrat John Kerry and the incumbent Republican George W. Bush are both actively campaigning, especially in the swing states.

For a full election preview, including the results of a recent campus survey, see our special full-color election pull-out inside this issue.

Proceeds from 2004 Relay for Life surpass goal

by Katie Stinchfield '07
NEWS WRITER

Between the hours of 7 p.m. on Friday, October 22 and 7 a.m. on Saturday, October 23, members of the Hamilton community participated in Relay for Life, a walkathon to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The event was held in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

This year students raised $11,987.70 by the end of the walk, almost three times the total of last year's fundraiser. According to Tierney Boisvert '07, one of the organizers of Relay for Life, "We have continued to receive donations directly and online so the total is approaching $12,000."

Zoe Baldwin '06 was responsible for organizing Relay for Life. She had help from Boisvert, Caitlin Connelly '07, and Beth Starker '07. "Caitlin Foley '04 and Abby Markeson '04 started the event two years ago and they asked me to help out last year," said Baldwin. "When they graduated I took it over."

Baldwin asked Boisvert, Connelly, and Starker for help organizing the event. Starker said she also had personal reasons for getting involved. "Members of my family have had cancer and I felt like this was a great

*see **Relay**, page 2*

HAVOC sponsors Fall Fest activities in Clinton

by Emily Pallin '08
NEWS WRITER

This past weekend students from Hamilton College marked the transition between the seasons with opportunities to volunteer at a Halloween party in Utica and to attend Clinton's Fall Fest '04.

On Saturday, a group of amazing volunteers from HAVOC helped to run stations at a party at the House of the Good Shepard in Utica.

The House of Good Shepard is a home for abused children. Volunteers helped to lead activities including face painting, a pie eating contest, basketball, an apple eating contest, and other Halloween-themed activities.

"It was a lot of fun to be able to work with those kids. It was great to see them smiling knowing all of the difficult things they have gone through in their lives," Sarah Cornblath '08 shared her experiences while competing with the kids in pie eating contests.

She was quick to note that she had finished the fastest in her group. It was clear the volunteers and kids both had great time at this outdoor Halloween party.

This past Sunday afternoon at Clinton's Fall Fest, '04 students and staff from Hamilton College were able to join with local town-members to take part in a celebration of the season. Located on the village green, residents of the town and campus alike enjoyed a variety of entertainment and seasonal foods.

Perhaps the most enticing element of the event for college students was the free and delicious foods served in a heated tent! While munching on free doughnuts, miniature pumpkin pies, and candy apples, visitors to the Fest also enjoyed the great entertain

*see **Fall Fest**, page 2*

Landmark tree to be taken down before Thanksgiving

by Emma Furman '07
NEWS EDITOR

Within the next few weeks, Hamilton College will lose one of its oldest and most majestic landmarks: the massive, ancient cucumber magnolia tree located in front of the Bristol Center. The College hoped to keep the tree up and thriving for as long as possible; however, recent analysis by both Hamilton College and independent arborists suggests that the tree is hollow due to decay and it would be unsafe to leave it standing.

According to Steven Bellona, Associate Vice President for Facilities and Planning, the decision to take down the tree was made by Physical Plant as well as the administration of the college. The tree and its declining health have been under the careful scrutiny of Physical Plant for quite some time. "We've been looking at this for several years now," said Bellona.

More recently, he added, "We started to see some other stress on the tree," and so "we had an independent arborist come in and take a look at it."

*see **Tree**, page 2*

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '06

The Bristol cucumber magnolia is sadly diseased and must be removed.

Novelist Lorene Cary gives lecture

by Caroline O'Shea '07
NEWS WRITER

Lorene Cary, author and senior lecturer in creative writing at theUniversity of Pennsylvania, gave a lecture titled "Memoir, History and Mystery" in the Barn on Oct. 21.

Cary is best known as the author of *Black Ice*, a memoir of her years as a black female student and later teacher at St. Paul's, an exclusive New England boarding school. She spoke about the experience of writing this book and the unique process of writing a memoir.

Professor of Government Steve Orvis introduced Cary, mentioning her many awards for women's leadership, black leadership, community service and teaching, saying that he was very impressed by the wide array of activities that Cary is involved in. Orvis is teaching a section of the College 130 class in which Cary's *Black Ice* is being read by students.

*see **Cary**, page 2*

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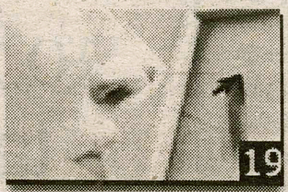
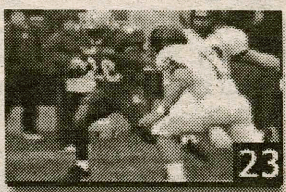


Still Trying...



Hot Hosts...

Relay for Life raises almost $12,000 for ACS

*from **Relay**, page 1*

way to show my support for them," she said.

This year, the committee decided to hold the event in October, instead of November like last year. "We had to work a little harder to get it ready a month earlier," Baldwin said. They coordinated with Bob Elinska of the American Cancer Society to make Relay for Life a success. According to Baldwin, "He was a huge part of our relay's success."

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '06

Students walked in circles to raise money for cancer.

The American Cancer Society will use the proceeds towards research, education, and wigs and rides to treatments for cancer patients.

With over 21 different student organizations competing, there was "constant enthusiasm throughout the night," said Boisvert. These organizations included the women's hockey team, the women's basketball team, the Buffers, ATX, PBX, the Emerson Literary Society, KSA, HAVOC, DKE, TKE, AD, Stryker, and the Independent Music Fund, among others. Various teams were organized by dorms as well.

The women's ice hockey team, ATX, and TKE raised the most money for the relay. The top fundraisers were Lauren Johnson '06 and Phoebe Scott '06.

Throughout the night, volunteers alternated between walking laps around the indoor track, sleeping in the area in the middle of the track, and enjoying the food and constant music.

"The music was really loud and was keeping everyone motivated," said Kara Feigeles '07, who walked between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. "On the side of the track there were bags filled with glow sticks, reading either 'in memorium' or 'in their honor,' and it was sad because people wrote on the bags. One person wrote, 'My Dad.'"

Throughout the night, volunteers remained enthusiastic. "You could tell people were starting to get tired around 3 a.m.," said Starker, "but then the Buffers broke out the karaoke machine and sang Wooly Bully, and everyone got up and joined in. It was exciting to see how much people cared and wanted to help support the fight against cancer."

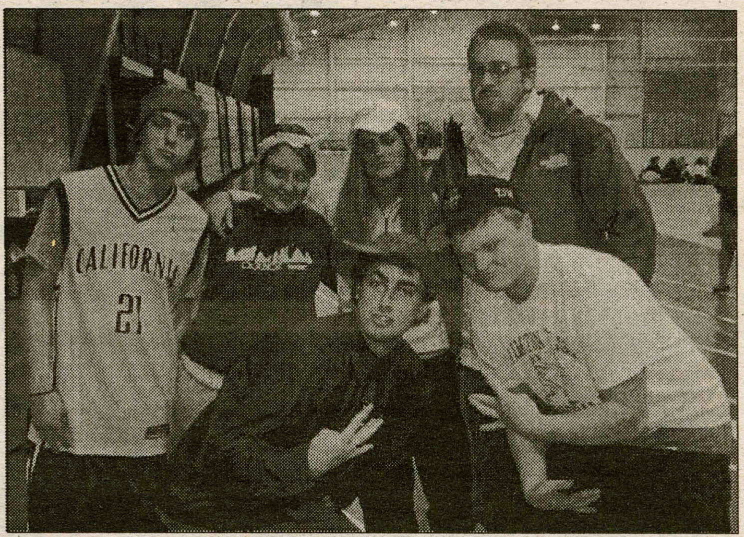


PHOTO BY NICK LUND '06

This team of students participated in the 2004 Relay for Life, which was sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

Feigeles also said that participants were very dedicated to the cause. "There was something about doing something together in the middle of the night that made it seem like an even greater cause," she stated. "It brought everyone together."

Fall Fest sponsored by Class of 2007

*from **Fall Fest**, page 1*

ment provided by Hamilton College organizations. Among some of the many activities and games that Fall Fest offered to kids were face painting, apple stamping, and eating doughnuts off of a string.

Hamilton groups also impressed crowds with amazing performances given by the Buffers, Special K, and Capoeira, just to name some of the talent showcased at the Fest.

Connie Kent '08 enthusiastically shared her experiences while munching on a caramel apple from the fair as she returned to campus: "Fall Fest was a really great way for Hamilton students to get involved in the local community. I know I had fun attending."

This event, sponsored by the class of 2007, was a great way to celebrate the transition into Fall and wonderful Clinton community as the college and town came together for a fun day of eating, entertainment, and games.

Two new cucumber magnolias to replace diseased Bristol tree

*from **Tree**, page 1*

The arborist's diagnosis for the tree was not good, and it was decided that the tree would have to come down. A full copy of the analysis is available on the Physical Plant website at http://www.hamilton.edu/college/physicalplant/BristolTulipMagnolia.pdf.

The exact date that the tree will be taken down on has not yet been determined. It will be left up as long as possible to allow the campus to fully enjoy one last turn of the fall foliage on this well-loved cucumber magnolia.

However, Bellona hopes to have the tree down before the inclement Clinton winter weather sets in. It will be taken down "before Thanksgiving, I would say," said Bellona, however, "We don't have a definitive time."

So far, there has only been positive and bittersweet feedback to the removal of this Hamilton landmark. "We've had some folks who felt that it's going to be a sad day [when the tree is taken down]," said Bellona. His voice echoed the sentiment of many on our campus community, "It's one of those trees that you'll miss...It's a beautiful tree."

Bellona also added that no one is sure "what the age of the tree is." This massive beautiful tree is "probably at least, as a minimum, one hundred," he went on to say.

However, the ancient tree will not go unreplaced. "We're going to plant two new cucumber magnolias," in its place said Bellona. "Once we get this one out, next spring we're going to pop two in that [same] area."

Cary gives lecture entitled "Memoir, History and Mystery"

*from **Cary**, page 1*

"Her reflections on the St. Paul's School," Orvis said, "can teach us some things about life at Hamilton."

Cary began her talk by reading aloud a passage from *Black Ice*, in which she relates the feelings she had before going to St. Paul's school. She and the other students who were integrating the school felt the obligation to shake things up. Cary learned this from her mother, whose "turning out" of white people who disrespected her because of her race showed her daughter an example of black power and duty.

Her responsibility at St. Paul's, she felt, was to do well academically and exceed all expectations. This pressure made her "tightly wound," she said.

In trying to relate all these experiences in her memoir, Cary said that she wanted to find a way to reconstruct for the reader the mysteries of life that she found in that place. In the course of writing the book, however, she discovered some new mysterious experiences.

While writing, she found that she was slipping back into adolescence, having a feeling of "going down the rabbit hole," and "writing into the mystery," she said. While these feelings made her nervous, her editor assured her that "some fine books" had come of this same unnerving process, and she continued on with the memoir.

Cary spoke about some of the problems she encountered in trying to capture her life, not as a sociological story about her but as a human being and a girl growing up. To write a story about integrating St. Paul's school, she said, she had to find out how her experience there was integrated into her life and personality. She also sought to make her writing like a pair of jeans, she said - "lean, easygoing prose...that makes the language recede and the picture explode in your brain."

Another obstacle Cary faced was making her personal story political, and sharing her anger without enraging the reader. She does feel that her story has political and social weight. As she said, "Black and white in America - and class in America - are a bad marriage. We, the children of that marriage, are forced to take sides."

In writing Black Ice, Cary said, she sought to write her own story into history and validate it as part of the world of authentic black experience. However, writing is not enough in Cary's opinion, but rather it is only "licking the gravy off the fat of the land." To deserve this privilege, Cary said, she works hard through activism and leadership to bring others the same opportunities that she has had.

Lorene Cary's lecture was sponsored by the College 130 classes, the departments of Africana Studies and Women's Studies, the Office of the President, the Dean of the Faculty, and the Kirkland Project.

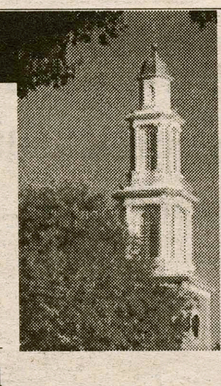
This article appears on Hamilton.edu.

Want to write for News? Email Greta Rosenberger or Emma Furman at grosenbe or efurman so we don't have to run these useless ads to take up space anymore.

News
The Spectator

IVORY TOWERS
THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06



Twins Score Identical Perfect SATs

LONG BEACH, New York (AP) — Dillon and Jesse Smith are fraternal twins, but their penchant for perfection is identical.

The 16-year-old brothers beat the odds to each score a perfect 1600 on the SATs. Of 1.4 million high-schoolers who took the Scholastic Aptitude Test in 2004, just 939 scored a perfect 1600.

The seniors at Long Beach High School aced the English and math tests after taking the SATs for the second time. Earlier this year, Dillon scored 1520 and Jesse 1530. Jesse ranks third in their senior class; Dillon ranks 16th.

"Sixteen is running my life. I'm 16 years old, I'm 16th in my class, and I got a 1600 on my SAT," Dillon said Wednesday. Dillon said he didn't even study too hard for the test.

"I didn't spend, like, weeks and months and years of my life studying for this test," he said. "I took it easy. ... "I happen to be good at taking tests."

Dillon plans to major in engineering and apply to Columbia, New York University and Cooper Union. Jesse plans to apply to Brown, Boston University, Wesleyan and Bates.

GOP Criticizes Student Get-Out-the-Vote Campaign

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin (AP) — Republicans are criticizing a Wisconsin get-out-the-vote campaign involving public school students, saying Democrats are exploiting the students for political gain.

Young people in the program organized by the Wisconsin Citizen Action Fund take time from regular classes to go door to door in minority neighborhoods and areas with historically low voter turnout, urging people to cast ballots.

The students, ranging in age from 11 to 18, also use phone banks to call homes and urge people to vote.

Chris Lato, spokesman for the state Republican Party, called the program "a disgraceful use of taxpayer money."

"To spend this time on a clearly partisan effort when these kids should be in school learning is shocking," Lato said.

Larry Marx, co-executive director of Wisconsin Citizen Action, denied there is any partisanship to the effort, despite the fact the advocacy group supports Democratic Sen. John Kerry.

The children do not wear any partisan buttons or clothing, and they do not encourage people to vote one way or another.

Participation is voluntary, and parents are required to give their approval, he said.

Author Critical of Bush Speaks at University

FORT MYERS, Florida (AP) — Student groups paid for an author critical of President Bush to speak after Florida Gulf Coast University's president tried to delay the visit until after the election.

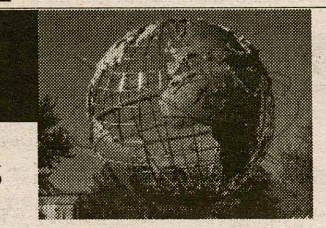
President William Merwin decided to delay Terry Tempest Williams' visit after reading the author's book, "The Open Space of Democracy," in which she criticizes Bush. Merwin said he feared funding a partisan event with state money and noted the speech, as originally planned, would have been part of a mandatory program for freshmen. The decision was backed 10-1 by the university's board of trustees.

Student groups, including the College Republicans as well as the College Democrats, contacted Williams and offered to pay her lodging, meals and publisher's expenses if she would speak Sunday as planned. Williams agreed, waiving her $5,000 speaking fee.

"Oppression of any kind depends on obedience," she told a crowd of 300 students. "Thank you for your very civil disobedience."

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06



Weak Arafat Heads to Paris for Treatment

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — An ailing Yasser Arafat - too weak to stand, unable to hold down food and spending most of Thursday sleeping - agreed to leave his battered West Bank compound for the first time in more than two years and fly to Paris for urgent medical treatment.

The 75-year-old Palestinian leader's planned departure Friday, a decade after he arrived in the West Bank with the promise of statehood, could mark the end of an era. Arafat, who hoarded power and declined to groom a successor, leaves behind a people in disarray.

Blood tests revealed he had a low platelet count, though it was unclear what caused the ailment, his doctors said, ruling out leukemia. In deference to his deteriorating condition, Israel lifted its travel ban on Arafat, allowing him to leave his battered headquarters compound in Ramallah for the first time since 2002 and to return if he recovers.

Arafat was to be moved to the Jordanian capital of Amman early Friday, then continue on to Paris, said aide Munnib al-Masri. Jordan sent two helicopters to pick up Arafat, who hasn't traveled abroad since visiting Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan in November 2001.

Palestinians across the Middle East anxiously monitored Arafat's health Thursday, but there was no mass vigil around his compound or any other public displays of support.

"I pray to God to save him because we need him, he is the safety valve for everything here, he is the father of all the Palestinians," said Imad Samara, a 38-year-old teacher from Gaza City.

Household Survey Sees 100,000 Iraqi Deaths

LONDON (AP) — A survey of deaths in Iraqi households estimates that as many as 100,000 more people may have died throughout the country in the 18 months since the U.S.-led invasion than would be expected based on the death rate before the war.

There is no official figure for the number of Iraqis killed since the conflict began, but some non-governmental estimates range from 10,000 to 30,000. As of Wednesday, 1,081 U.S. servicemen had been killed, according to the U.S. Defense Department.

The scientists who wrote the report concede that the data they based their projections on were of "limited precision," because the quality of the information depends on the accuracy of the household interviews used for the study. The interviewers were Iraqi, most of them doctors.

Insurgents Slaughter 11 Iraqi Soldiers

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Insurgents slaughtered 11 Iraqi soldiers, beheading one, then shooting the others execution-style, and declared on an Islamic militant Web site Thursday that Iraqi fighters will avenge "the blood" of women and children killed in U.S. strikes on the guerrilla stronghold of Fallujah.

The wave of foreigner kidnappings claimed another victim - a Polish woman in her 60s who is married to an Iraqi. Her captors demanded that Poland withdraw its 2,400 soldiers and that the U.S.-led coalition free all Iraqi women held at Abu Ghraib prison.

The killing of the 11 Iraqi National Guardsmen was claimed by the Ansar al-Sunnah Army, which posted a videotape of their brutal deaths on its Web site Thursday along with a warning for all Iraqi police and soldiers to desert or face death. The militants said earlier the soldiers were abducted this week on the road between Baghdad and Hillah, 60 miles to the south.

After forcing each of the soldiers to state his name and unit, the militants forced one of them to the ground and sawed off his head. The others were forced to kneel with their hands bound as a gunman fired shots into the back of their heads.

NATIONAL NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Winning Leaves Boston Red Sox Fans Elated, Puzzled

BOSTON (AP) — Matt Savage stood in the chill outside Fenway Park, elated and a little dazed as he greeted the World Series champion Boston Red Sox. He ruled out going to work for now, but he wasn't worried about job security. His boss was standing next to him.

"I think everything's going to be on hold for a little while," he said.

On Thursday, priorities like jobs became afterthoughts as Red Sox fans celebrated the end of Boston's 86-year title drought and tried to fathom their new place in the baseball universe: winners.

"It definitely hasn't registered yet," Savage said. "I'm just waiting for the ump to say (winning pitcher) Derek Lowe wasn't eligible, he was traded to the (Japan's) Nippon Ham Fighters before the game."

"Literally every conversation you have starts with, 'Do you believe it?'" said Tom Gilligan, who works in sales. "World karma has changed."

Boston's bad karma came from a series of famous collapses that Wednesday's win totally eclipses. After winning the 1918 World Series, the Red Sox lost the series in the final game in 1946, 1967, 1975 and 1986. In 1978, Boston completed a monumental regular-season collapse with a loss to the Yankees in a one-game playoff.

Bush, Kerry Trade Charges on Leadership

SAGINAW, Mich. (AP) — Bitingly personal, President Bush called Sen. John Kerry too weak and wavering for wartime leadership Thursday while the Democrat held Bush responsible for missing explosives in Iraq. "The commander in chief is not getting his job done," Kerry said.

The blunder should cost Bush his presidency, the challenger argued. The Republican incumbent fired back: "John Kerry is the wrong man for the wrong job at the wrong time."

For the fourth straight day, the candidates exchanged harsh words over the disappearance of nearly 400 tons of explosives stored at Iraq's Al-Qaqaa military installation. The 11th-hour political stir, which Bush advisers say has slowed their campaign, is a reflection of how the war in Iraq and terrorism have overshadowed domestic affairs throughout the campaign.

Another example was news that the FBI has begun investigating whether the Pentagon improperly awarded no-bid military contracts to Halliburton Co., formerly headed by Vice President Dick Cheney.

Kerry hoped to make an issue out of Halliburton in a speech Friday, a day after his running mate, John Edwards, called the company's actions part of a "long pattern of favoritism" inside the Bush administration.

Time to Set Clocks Back to Standard Time

WASHINGTON (AP) — Backyard barbecue season is winding to a close and it's time to say goodbye to daylight-saving time.

Clocks shift back to standard time at 2 a.m. Sunday, local time, giving most people an extra hour of sleep Saturday night.

That means set the clock back an hour - fall back.

Of course, it also means an extra hour of work to those who work the overnight shift. And the change means it will be dark an hour earlier Sunday night when the young ghosts and ghouls make their Halloween rounds.

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Please join us in congratulating them on their excellent academic achievement.

Animal Awareness Day

Featuring the Utica Zoo-mobile!

Come join the Hamilton Humane Society on Saturday November 6, 2004 from 1 to 3:30pm in Annex A

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The Spectator

If it has become cliché to say that the upcoming presidential election is the most important in generations, it is only because of the tremendous range of issues at play, and the grand moral, philosophical and intellectual differences between the two major candidates, George W. Bush and John F. Kerry. Our nation is in a time of crises nearly unparalleled in our long and illustrious history.

We are at war both at home and abroad, against the ethereal and shifting forces of terror and the very real, constant threat of insurgency in Iraq. At home, our economy is in turmoil, many of our public schools are in shambles, the costs of healthcare continue to rise unchecked, and the specter of a draft looms heavily over us all. Our next president will have to deal not only with these issues, but those of the environment, gay rights, social security and appointments to the Supreme Court. These are massive responsibilities, and it is with them in mind that the *Spectator* makes its first, enthusiastic endorsement for president of the United States: Senator John Kerry.

Primary in our minds, as well as those of many American voters, is the conflict in Iraq. Instigated by President Bush under the pretense of a clear and present danger to American interests, and fought ostensibly to make America safer, the ongoing conflict has accomplished the opposite. Not only did Iraq have no weapons of mass destruction, a fact that various intelligence reports are making increasingly clear the President should have at least expected, if not known, but the power vacuum and insurgency created in the wake of America's "successful" invasion has created a virtual haven for international terrorists and their allies.

Instead of pursuing terrorists where they live, President Bush has foolishly allocated American troops to the wrong war, justified with wrong intelligence. John Kerry, while applauding the apprehension of Saddam Hussein and the end of his murderous dictatorship, realizes that our resources can best be used elsewhere. His plan for Iraq includes the creation of a large, international coalition or troops to help ease the burden on American forces, and slowly transition Iraq from a puppet regime held up with American support to a truly self-sufficient nation.

Also of interest to most voters is the candidates widely varying positions on the economy. A hallmark of the Bush presidency has been a $1.35 trillion tax cut, the majority of which has gone to corporations and the wealthiest Americans. This reckless fiscal policy has turned a nearly $3 trillion surplus into a projected $5 trillion deficit, limiting the ability of the government to fund such critical projects as education, social security and defense, all while saving the average middle class American less than $300 a year.

John Kerry has sensibly vowed to rescind the Bush tax cut for individuals making more than $200,000 a year, while promising not to raise taxes for anyone else. With this income thus restored to the treasury, Kerry will be able to cut the deficit in half by the end of his first term. In addition, Senator Kerry has also pledged to raise the minimum wage in America to $7 from $5.15 to help the poorest Americans make ends meet, a measure President Bush has steadfastly refused to consider.

More important than the candidates' stance on any one issue, however, is their general worldview and perspective on political decision making. Throughout his tenure, George W. Bush has proven himself to be a man of devout faith, usually an honorable characteristic. To often, however, Mr. Bush allows his personal faith to determine his stance on very public issues. Take stem cells, for example. By all scientific accounts, stem cells have the possibility to revolutionize medicine, and provide cures for diseases as diverse as diabetes and spinal cord injuries. But President Bush, citing his faith, has prohibited federal funding for almost all stem cell research, scarifying the best interests of the nation for his personal beliefs. Senator Kerry, a practicing Catholic, has shown the ability to see past the strictures of his religion and put the majority will of the people first.

Also of concern is President Bush's record on civil rights, illustrated by his position on gay marriage. Unlike Senator Kerry, who favors leaving the issue up to the states, Bush favors a constitutional amendment defining marriage as between a man and a woman. Far from simply denying homosexual couples the semantic recognition they deserve, President Bush's plan would mark the first instance of discrimination being written into America's most scared document, a sharp departure from historical trends towards greater tolerance and acceptance.

Finally, President Bush strikes us as an incurious, literal man. His tendency to view the world as black or white, with us or against us, friend or foe is not only inappropriate, but dangerous in today's increasingly nuanced, ever changing world. John Kerry has convinced us that he will approach the job of President with an open and pragmatic mind. In today's times, that is perhaps the most important issue of all.

The Spectator

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First published as *The Radiator* in 1848.

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A special thanks to those editors who worked on this week's Special Edition Elections Section:

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The *Spectator* would also like to thank Mr. Brian H. Sear of Allied Printing Company and Mr. Eric West at the Pennysaver for their technical support.

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FC is for fortune cookie, that's good enough for me

by Adam Polonski '08
I&I WRITER

So I'm in McEwen, worrying myself to death. I have lots to worry about; after all, life on the Hill is no walk in the park. I've got classes to fret about, and activities, and social drama-oh, the social drama! Things are coming to a head, and I'm desperately in need of guidance. I thank the heavens for my wise choice of dining hall, glad for once that it's not the weekend, and wend my way to the stir-fry bar. No, not to ask the chefs for advice, although I'm sure they have plenty. I have something different in mind. And there they are before my eyes: the answer to all my worries. The source of guidance when I am lost, of wisdom when I am foolish, of light when I am blind. Fortune cookies.I grab a handful (enough for the whole table... wouldn't want to leave my friends without guidance), and return to my seat.

It is the moment of judgement. I sit and I crack it, and this is what I see: "It may be wise to consult others before taking unusual action." Wise words, and ominous. But very useful. If not for the fortune, I might have kept my worries bottled up inside. And then, everything would have exploded in my face-for the fortune cookies never lie. Sometimes, though, the fortunes are meaningless. And by sometimes, I mean "rather a lot." The sappy ones, the ones about vacations-these tell me nothing about the future. They are a waste of time-and of calories (everyone knows that, for the fortune to apply, the cookie must be eaten just before, while, or shortly after the fortune is read). But that is the gamble we take when we eat the fortune cookie. Yet other times, the fortunes are not at all trite, but very relevant indeed. Far more than you would ever expect. Now, do not dismiss the fortune cookie.

Maybe you say that this is all hokey mysticism or mumbo-jumbo, and maybe you note that the cookies are probably made in California anyway, not in the distant Orient. And maybe you even think that it's discriminatory (or at least rude) to China to imply that their baked goods have knowledge of what is to come. I have two things to say to that.

First, don't kill the magic. Self-explanatory. Second: try it yourself. It can't hurt. Especially if you are in need of guidance, if life leaves you befuddled, walk up to the stir-fry instead of asking your friends. Suspend your disbelief for a moment, and ask the fortune cookie. The truth may be revealed to you. And even if it is only some trite saying.... Well, at least they taste good, too.

Wanted: Insights and Ideas

by Allison Kerbel '05
SENIOR COPY EDITOR

Here on the hill, we have a school paper, *the Spec.* And it has sections. They're pretty self-explanatory: the Sports section covers athletic events, the Arts and Entertainment section includes reviews of movies, TV shows, CDs and games, the News section addresses current events at Hamilton and in the world at large (yes, there is a world outside Hamilton). And then there's this section, Insights and Ideas, which seems to be an open forum for anyone who wants to get his or her name in the paper.

Yes, kids, you too can ramble irrelevantly and inarticulately about anything you choose, and the Spectator will publish you!

Here's a revolutionary idea: how about, in order to write an article for Insights and Ideas, you must include an insight or an idea? At the very least, please be entertaining. Oh, and please be able to speak and write English.

If you are a freshman who knows nothing about life on the hill, please don't write an article full of assumptions and unchecked facts just because you want your name in the paper. If you have nothing to say and you aren't funny, please don't write an article about nothing just because you want your name in the paper. If you have obscure or convoluted political ideas and you are the only one who reads your own article, please, remember that you already know your own ideas and do not need to publish them. And if you can't seem to remember simple rules of grammar and syntax, take your article to the Writing Center!

Just kidding. Seriously, please, remember that *the Spectator* is a small, weekly publication at a pretentious liberal arts school. Nobody reads it or cares about it but Hamilton kids, and they forget everything by Sunday that they read in *the Spec* on Friday. So do us all a favor. Don't waste our time with stupid crap. The I&I editors are too nice to tell you that you suck, but I'm not. At the very least, ask your friends what they think of your article before subjecting 1750 other poor souls to your inane and nonsensical babble. And if you must publish something in this section, be brief and to the point. Unless you're funny, in which case, feel free to go on at length. Just remember: you are probably not the best judge of your own sense of humor.

Look, kids, I promise I follow my own advice. I'm a senior. I copy edit for *the Spec* every week, but this is only my second article ever because when I have nothing to say, I feel no obligation to waste your time. I even asked other people what they thought of my article before I submitted it. And because I'm clearly not funny, I won't belabor my point. All I want is a little honest self-appraisal before all you would-be journalists murder many innocent trees for no good reason. Ask yourself: is this insightful? Does it have a point? Am I funny? If the answer to all three of those is "no," put your pen down and join the streaking team instead. The publicity is better anyway.

D.I.Y. I&I

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Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
- HOLY SH*T WE WON! - Derek Lowe -Living through the pinnacle of American Baseball - Kerry and Red Sox MASSHOLES in '04!! - The Cubs- Next Year!! -Pedro, Manny, Curt, Ted, and all the Boston Boys through the ages! -Everything!!! -Pink Triangles -Oh yeah, Go Pats!	- Midterms during ALCS/ (NLCS, too, fine.) World Series *by K. Healywu '05 and D-MasterC '06 for Yodapez and Ben Turner '05*	- 1918 - Roger Clemens - Bill Buckner: You're forgiven man!! - *Whiny* Yankees fans - Papers, homework and studying, apparently. -HCTV (just kidding Taddei!) - A-Rod starring in "The Slap Heard 'Round the World" or "You Don't Slap a Man" -Bandwagoners: find your own team. Unless you are from NE, then it's okay.

Letters to the Editor

THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF _THE SPECTATOR_, ITS EDITORS, ITS STAFF, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE, ADMINISTRATORS, AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, THE SPECTATOR HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION

1. submissions are due by 6:00p.m. on the Tuesday before publication. Submissions can be sent by email to spec@hamilton.edu or to bchase@hamilton.edu. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. the spectator will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. the spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. if a piece is determined to be libelous, and unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

To the Editor,

I was rather troubled by Britten Chase's recent I&I article "Hey bigots: bring it on" (Spectator 10/15/04). I'm usually a fan of her writing, finding it witty and thought-provoking, so I'm surprised that she failed to recognize the blatant double-mindedness in her article. To discourage the use of hateful epithets by slinging your own is foolhardy and childish. Likewise, do you really wish to discourage threats of violence by lodging your own?

Ms. Chase purports that these thoughts are "on everyone's mind." I hope desperately that they are not! If they are, then "everyone" is no better than the original perpetrators and this community is in sorrier shape than we imagine it to be.

Matthew Van Hook '06

We the undersigned believe that the categorical exclusion of *any* independents from last week's debate between the Hamilton Democrats and Hamilton Republicans was contemptible.

Jonathan Rick '05
Young Han '06
Lindsay Martin '07
Aran Lawrence '05
Adam Hobson '06
Meghan Stringer '07

To the Editor,

It is a shame that independents were not allowed to participate in this fall's political debate. At last spring's forum, Jonathan Rick and Young Han offered two very different and enlightening viewpoints, in stark contrast to the predictable, rote talking points of the mainstream party representatives. I was rooting for the Republicans, but Jonathan Rick said what I wished they had said on many important issues. When not bound by the constraints of towing the party line, real ideas and solutions are aired and that's as it should be at a liberal arts college. With national parties now just shouting out their rhetoric at the presidential finish line, a forum at the college offering more than what I can get anywhere else would have been most welcome.

Sincerely,

Christine P. Potocki
1335 Graffenburg Road
New Hartford, NY 13413
Tel. (315) 738-092

Well done, Hamilton. New life breathed into school's recycling system brings record breaking rates.

Through the scare tactics factoid barrage of Green Week and Physical Plant's helpful yet sparse recycling snippets comes a voice of clarity in the storm of "what's going on in Hamilton's recycling system?" The numbers now tabulated, you'll find the attached histogram, an accurate representation of the schools recycling rate history from the past three years. Notice the periodic rise and fall of total recycling percentages. Following the boom in late 2002, quaintly dubbed "The Bardenett Era", Hamilton fell into a depression that hit the concerned parties hard. With rates well below 10% throughout most of the 2003-2004 academic year, the school flashed its uglier side to environmental responsibility.

But the cautious reader will notice the rally in rates marking the beginning of this school year. Maybe it's the fresh blood of the class of 2008, or the legible recycling instructions now posted at every dorm recycling center. Could be Hamilton's recycling webpage [still in the works], or the newly appointed Dorm Recycling Monitors. Who can say for sure why rates have jumped and we are now recycling more than ever before? One thing's for sure though, bottles aren't recycling themselves. So, thank you Hamilton. Keep an eye on those bins.

Thanks to Terry Hawkridge for the raw recycling data.

Lucas Thornblade '07

Defining success: going beyond midterms

by Melissa Kong '08
I&I CONTRIBUTOR

It's midterm season. I've spent the past two weeks watching myself and almost everyone around me stress out incessantly about tests. In these few weeks, I have observed a couple of things. First, the different ways in which people study on this campus; and second, a common misconception that good grades are a prerequisite for success. I have noticed two predominant types of students.

The first group avoids work like the plague. You know who they are. They're the students with their textbooks open while watching the baseball game, because they are convinced that it is possible to study and have their eyes glued to the T.V. screen simultaneously.

Then there are the students who sit in those seats on the right hand side when you first walk in the library. I am convinced that no one can concentrate there for more than three minutes at a time. People sit there hoping that someone will notice them and come over to say hi, distracting them from studying for just another five minutes. Some sit at their desks with the intention of getting work done, only to realize that it took thirty minutes to read four pages. Why? They were on thefacebook.com making an "I pretend to study," group and sending invites to their friends sitting in front of the television or in those chairs by the entrance of the library, working equally hard at pretending to study.

But then there is the second group: the over-achievers. You've seen them too. They are the people who sit on the third floor in an isolated corner, organize study groups 2 weeks before tests, and go to their professor's office hours at 9 o'clock at night. A week ago, I was probably closer to fitting into this category.

However, somewhere between 2 and 3 a.m. on my third day of studying continuously for a single midterm, I started to wonder what the point of it was. Why was I stressing so much over a grade like it would be the end of my life if I didn't do well? Why was I trying so hard to remember extensive amounts of data: (dates, places, names, statistics, theories) even though I knew I would forget half of it 30 days from now? I told myself that I was doing it so I could be successful.

The question then became: What is success? By definition, success is the accomplishment of a goal; a favorable outcome; a person or thing that comes out well. The problem is that students often associate success with getting good grades. But getting an A+ or a C- on one midterm is not going to determine how "successful" you are 20 years from now. Good grades are simply a tool used to gauge progress.

Grades are undoubtedly important because they indicate how and where students need to improve. But success cannot be measured by a grade. It isn't about getting a professor to like your paper. Rather, success is measured by the desire to understand how the paper can be improved; it is measured by the ability to use that paper as a stepping stone for making future papers better. Success isn't about getting an A on a test. It is thinking about what you have learned in a class and how you can apply those ideas and principles towards making an improvement in yourself and the world around you. At the end of the day, being successful is not about how well you can guess on a multiple choice test, nor is it about being able to write a paper with no errors in it. Success is measured by the belief you have in yourself- in believing that you can do what others say you can't. So continue to study hard, my fellow Hamiltonians. But if you find that you did not get as good a grade on that midterm or paper as you would have liked, do not be discouraged. Use it as a stimulant to make you work harder to be a better student- a better thinker. And know that your desire to learn, not just to get a good grade, will help you reach the acme of success throughout your life.

In the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people... to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; to leave the world a little better...to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is the meaning of success."

In defense of the two party debate: a response

by Caroline O'Shea '07, Janine Rowe '06, Alex Taddei '06, Dan Bleeker '06

CONTRIBUTORS FROM THE HAMILTON COLLEGE DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE BOARD

We, the Executive Board members of the Hamilton College Democrats, would like to respond to Jonathan Rick's "No Straw Men" in the October 22nd issue of the *Spectator*. The leaders of the Hamilton College Democrats and Hamilton College Republicans had been planning to hold a debate on the issues involved in the presidential election since the beginning of the semester.

The purpose of this debate, unlike the one held last semester, was to provide the student body with an accessible forum to learn the positions of the two major candidates in this year's highly contested presidential election. Our personal opinions, which often differ from the official positions of the Democratic Party, would be repressed in favor of presenting the views of the candidates themselves.

Midway through the organizational process, Mr. Rick approached us and more or less demanded inclusion. Mr. Rick's vision of our debate included him as a third party perspective. While we considered this as a possibility, our two clubs decided to maintain our original intention to mirror the presidential debates and inform the campus about the positions of our respective candidates. To include a third party perspective, we argued, would detract from the educational nature of the debate, and serve as a distraction from the stated intent of the event.

Even after several discussions where we thoroughly explained our stance and suggested that Mr. Rick hold a debate of his own, which we would be happy to participate in, Mr. Rick continued to disrespect our decision as the organizers of the event. By making this a personal issue, Mr. Rick made us even less inclined to change our plans in the late stages of organization.

While it is true that the Levitt Center rescinded funding for the event, the two organizations never approached the Government Department for funding as Mr. Rick claims in his October 22nd article in the *Spectator*. We did, however, request and were granted funding by Student Assembly, who agreed that we were in the right.

While we respect Mr. Rick's right to his opinions, we regret that this issue degenerated to the level that it did. In spite of this incident, our debate this past Wednesday was a considerable success. We thank both the Republican Club and all the students that came out to support both our organizations. Hopefully this spirit of bipartisanship and cooperation will continue in what promises to be a most exciting political season ahead.

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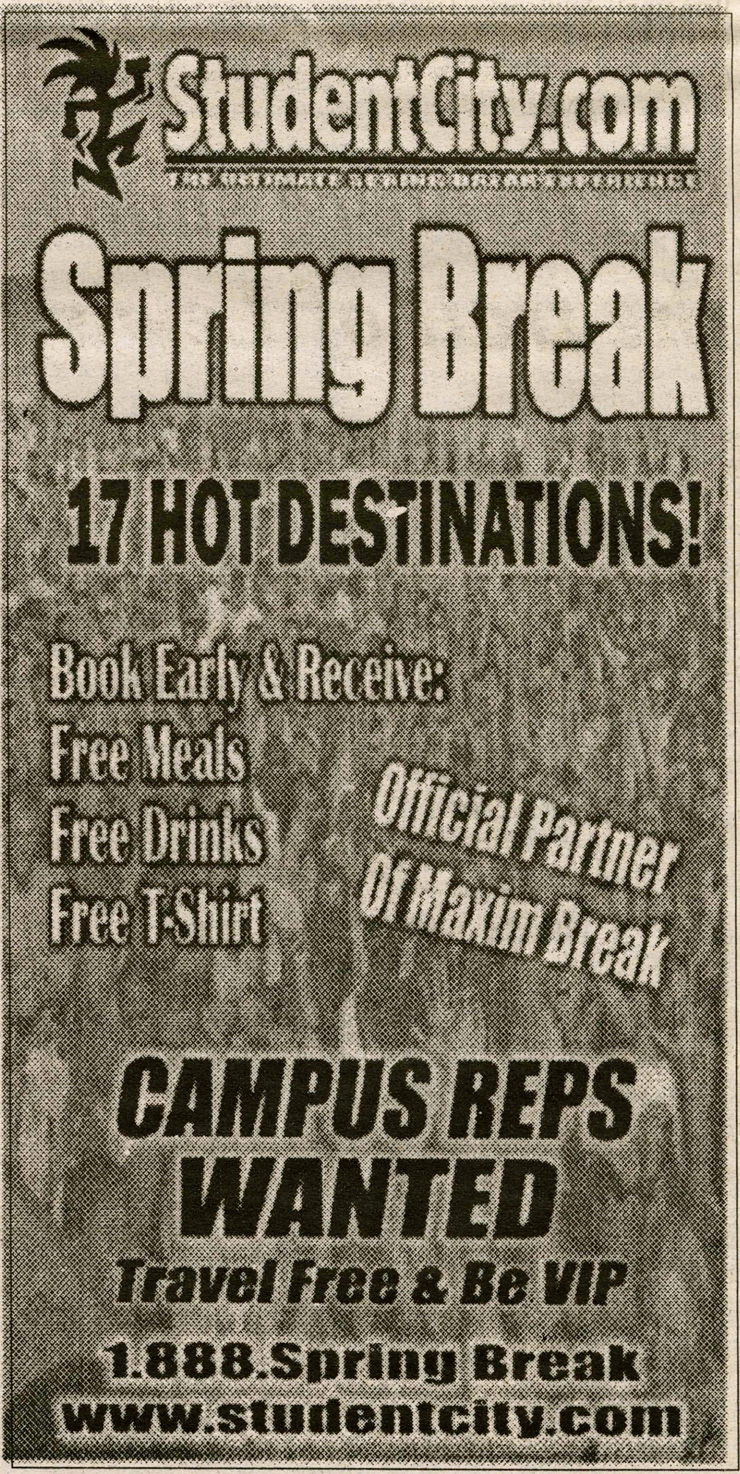

Meet the Senior Fellows

by Danielle Sclafani '08
FEATURES WRITER

Senior Fellow. The phrase rings prestige and wonderment in the minds of many. But exactly is a Senior Fellow, and who are they? Although we all received an e-mail listing the names of the Fellows for 2004-2005, to many people on campus the Senior Fellows are still enigmas, and their title, a mystery.

What is a Senior Fellow? Senior Fellow: noun. Those students of "intellectual caliber, independence of mind, and imaginative curiosity" chosen to complete a "personal project of study that will contribute significantly to their intellectual growth." As detailed on Hamilton's website, every year the Faculty and the Board of Trustees votes, choosing no more than seven students from the junior class to be Senior Fellows during the following year.

Who are they? This year, the Senior Fellows are Thomas Acampora, Aletha Asay, Elizabeth Jones, Emily Kerr, Christopher Takacs, and Louis Vaickus.

Christopher Takacs
"The Social Dynamics of Real and Virtual Space"
Principal Advisor: Daniel Chambliss
Co-Advisor: A. Todd Franklin

For his project, Chris, a sociology and philosophy double major, is examining social interaction in urban American public spaces. "Specifically," he says, "I'm examining how people interact with one another in relation to the physical space around them, and how they relate to the cultural ideals and memories embodied in their surrounding architecture." He explains, "essentially, I want to determine the ways in which the physical structures of a space determine how people go about their everyday social lives within it." The idea for Chris' fellowship certainly did not just come out of nowhere: he has had an interest in studying public spaces for quite some time. "Public spaces," he says, "are vibrant, exciting, and quite intriguing, and looking at them from a sociological perspective gives me a framework to get at exactly 'what is going on' in a given space." Chris plans to conduct field studies in areas of New York City such as Washington Square Park, the World Trade Center site, and parts of Central Park, and in addition, will read literature on the topic in order to, as he puts it, "get at the root of the social and architectural phenomenon that [he's] studying."

Senior Fellows each have two advisors, a Principal Advisor and a Co-Advisor. For Chris, determining who his advisors would be was a "natural" process. "Professors Chambliss and Franklin have long been my guiding intellectual mentors," says Chris, "and this project sits smack in the center of what they do best and what they've taught me to love."

Indeed, for Chris, the thing that intrigued him most about the possibility of becoming a Senior Fellow was the chance to do extraordinary research in a field that he is so interested in. "Being a fellow gives me a great chance to challenge myself and see what I can produce in a year of independent work, and I was honored to be accepted into a program with such a good record of producing interesting and meaningful projects," he says. "I [believe] that a year-long interdisciplinary project [will] be a challenging and rewarding way to end my Hamilton career."

Chris is currently in the process of applying to graduate programs in philosophy and sociology with hopes of pursuing a Ph.D. in one of those fields. When not working on grad school applications and research, Chris remains a very active member of the Hamilton community keeping busy as a senior editior for the *Spectator*, a writing center tutor, the philosophy department's office assistant, an Adirondack Adventure leader, a Levitt Scholar, and a TA for several philosophy classes.

see *Fellows*, page 10

Sophomore seminar follows the trail of Lewis and Clark

by Todd Rayne
PROFESSOR OF GEOLOGY

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY PROF. TODD RAYNE

Students enrolled in the Lewis and Clark sophomore seminar pose for a picture while traveling.

Exactly 200 years after the Lewis and Clark expedition set off from the frontier town of St. Louis, a group of 17 Hamilton College students flew to the nearly frontier city of Bismark, North Dakota to start a 10-day voyage traveling along much of the route of the original explorers. The students, led by Professors Maurice "Meriwether Lewis" Isserman and Todd "William Clark" Rayne, were members of Sophomore Seminar 295, On the Trail of Lewis and Clark: An interdisciplinary, bicentennial voyage of discovery. Although their trip was on a comfortable bus, complete with VCR and bathroom, and lodging was in comfortable motels, they were still able to experience some of the hardships of the original members - prickly pear cactus spines in their feet, snow in the Bitterroot Mountains, and rain and drizzle on the Pacific Coast.

The Hamilton trip was truly one of discovery for all participants. For some, it was their first trip west of Cleveland and their first encounters with sagebrush, the big sky of Montana, the Columbia River Gorge, and the Pacific Ocean. For others, it meant getting to play pool with the locals in Glendive, Montana and find out about life in the rural West. For everyone it was a chance to get away from Clinton after a long semester, become friends with fellow students who were merely classmates before the trip, and see the location where the move The Goonies was filmed.

This spring, Professors Isserman (History), Pfitsch (Biology), and Rayne (Geology) will teach the course and, like last year, the trip is an important (and mandatory) part of

see *Lewis and Clark*, page 10

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

Portrait of Joseph Spurlake vandalized; outraged College community protests
November 2, 1990

The defacement of a photographic portrait of Joseph Spurlake, the first African-American student to graduate from Hamilton, has sparked campus-wide concern and outrage. The vandals stuck a sanitary napkin with the words "lick me" on the portrait, and a note condemning the act was affixed to the wall next to it.

The portrait of Spurlake, Class of 1889, was unveiled in the Stryker ("all-night") reading room on the Burke Library on September 14 in a ceremony commemorating him.

The members of the Black and Latino Student Union (BLSU), who were notified of the incident last Thursday evening, held a protest march to the football field bleachers during Saturday's game.

Dressed in black and donning red and green armbands to symbolize the colors of the African national flag, the marchers lined up in front of the spectators, which included parents visiting for Parents Weekend. During half time, Darin Hickman '91, President of BLSU, made a speech protesting the incident.

On Monday, approximately 200 students, as well as some members of the administration and the faculty, staged a march from Bristol Campus Center to the Burke Library, in front of Buttrick, and through Commons Dining Hall. The march ended in McEwen Dining Hall, where Hickman made a speech to the lunchtime diners. Behind him, President Payne and another student held up the African national flag.

The fraternity rush is on
National trend indicates fraternities have rebounded
October 29, 1976

Once again, the rush is on.

Rushing, the practice defined in a 1968 Fraternity President's Council statement as "the process by which fraternity members and students wishing to join a fraternity, seek out common interests," began October 15 and will continue through the Thursday preceding winter house party weekend.

Alcohol, the common denominator, will be in plentiful supply for the next few days as freshmen get their first real taste of fraternity spirit and fraternity spirits.

No changes in the regulations governing rushing were made at a Tuesday meeting of the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC), a self-governing body comprised of the presidents of all the campus fraternities. But the meeting did produce an allegation of rushing rule violations prior to the October 15 starting date.

"If I had evidence I'd make sure something was done about it," said Peter Bressler, president of TEAK. Larry Joyce, president of the IFC, speculated that the alleged violations involved the three Bundy fraternities (TEAK, Delta Phi, and Gryphon) but said, "The IFC can do nothing without concrete evidence."

Housing committee to study co-ed dorms
October 22, 1971

The Student Senate Housing Committee has established a subcommittee of seven Hamilton and Kirkland students to study the question of co-ed housing. The task of this committee will be to sound out student opinion on co-ed housing and to report findings to the Senate and Administration.

If student opinion voiced through the survey is favorable, the committee hopes that co-ed housing may be initiated next fall. One dorm on each campus would be set aside for the new project, and students would help decide which dorms would be used for co-ed housing.

As now planned, floors will be co-ed, with women on one half and men on the other. The committee is seriously considering Root dorm and Kirkland as possibilities because the buildings' sizes and designs lead themselves well to co-ed housing.

Under the committee's plan, each student will be able to choose the type of dorm he wishes to live in. However, members of the class of 1976 will not be eligible to live in co-ed dorms their freshmen year.

Senior Fellows projects study an aray of topics

from *Fellows*, page 9

Louis Vaickus
"Selective Intermolecular Free Radical Reactions of a-Nirto Esters and Amide"
Principal Advisor: Ian Rosenstein
Co-Advisor: Stephen Waratuke

For Louis Vaickus's Fellowship, he plans to work on synthesizing precursors to molecules that can then be used to perform selective, free-radical reactions. "When this point is reached," he explains, "the level of selectivity of each process will be determined through analytical techniques." "The goal of my project," explains Louis, "is to find efficient ways to selectively synthesize amino acid derivatives for a wide range of chemical, biological and pharmaceutical applications."

Like Chris, Louis decided to pursue a fellowship largely due to the research opportunity involved. "I wanted to maximize my research involvement and focus the bulk of my time on a much more extensive version of what would be my [senior] thesis project," he says. "I was inspired to be a fellow because of my growing realization of the enormously time consuming nature of scientific research. I realized that I wanted to leave Hamilton having produced a very substantive body of cohesive research in order to advance the chemistry department." Through his project, Louis hopes to add to Hamilton's growing body of primary publications. "With any luck," he says, "I will be able to produce several publishable results."

As a Chemistry major, Louis has taken many science courses, however, so far, his favorite course has been "Research Methods in Chemistry" because, as he puts it, "it was pivotal in cementing my dedication to scientific research." When not passing time in the Chem building, Louis keeps himself busy working on applications to medical school; he is an applying for combined M.D./Ph.D programs. Outside of Chemistry and thoughts of medical school, Louis attends Capoeira class, but once winter rolls around he'll definitely be taking advantage of the ski van in the evenings.

Aletha Asay
"Narratives of the A-Bomb"
Principal Advisor: Melek Ortabasi
Co-Advisor: Kyoko Omori

Aletha Asay began thinking about becoming a Fellow after her advisor and a teacher suggested the idea to her. "I just got an email from my advisor and another teacher saying 'you should think about doing this' and it just excited me to be able to pursue my own research interests outside of class and have it amount to something other than just coursework. Plus you get to structure your own time and it's very flexible, and you don't have to take many classes."

Although Fellowships are exciting opportunities for students, they certainly are not easy. "You have to be your own boss and that can be hard sometimes," says Aletha.

As projects often do, Aletha Asay-a Comparative Literature major with a specialization in Japanese-Fellowship has changed somewhat since she submitted the title that appeared on the all-campus email. "[As of now], I'm analyzing texts written by Japanese writers on the topic of the A-bomb- mostly survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to see how their narratives serve as activism—how they affect the reader, the position of the texts and their authors in Japanese literature and society, etc." Aletha plans to delve into narrative theory and deconstruction of the texts and is also working on some translations to use as new material, since, as she puts it, "there is still a lot that hasn't been translated to English."

"[Of all my classes] Asian Art and Culture with Goldberg was probably one of the most interesting classes I've taken... and Professor Goldberg is a really funny character," reported Aletha. That said, it is not surprising that her project topic relates to Asian society. Actually, her idea for her project began after taking Ortabasi's CPLIT 277-Japanese Women Writers.

"[In that class] I found that I really related to and enjoyed their writing...we also read some A-bomb lit, and I was fascinated by the idea that their was this whole genre of writing stemming from people's experience of the bombings, and it's something very intense, quite unlike a lot of other culture's literary canons. I wanted to understand the how and why and where these texts came from, because to me it pertains to the larger problem of humans communicating experience," says Aletha.

Like Chris, Aletha's advisors for her project were not difficult decisions. "Melek Ortabasi in Comp. Lit. was a natural choice because she specializes in Japanese Literature and so does Kyoko Omori in East Asian Languages. Melek is really like my mentor in a lot of ways—it's scary how alike we are sometimes-and we work well together."

At Hamilton, Aletha is a member of the Tae Kwon Do (Korean martial art) Club, the Rainbow Alliance and works in the library. "Yeah, I used to do a lot more stuff but my advisors won't let me!" she says. If you want to know more about Aletha or her project, feel free to talk to her. "I don't really like trying to portray myself in print, I find that I usually stereotype myself or something. So if people want to know more, they should just talk to me."

Post-Hamilton, Aletha is considering a degree in Library Science, with the possibility of specializing in Asian Collections. She says, "I need a master's to be a reference librarian, but I'm all over the map, possibly Canada-especially if Bush is re-elected!"

The remaining four Senior Fellows who were not highlighted in this article will be featured in next week's issue.

Traveling out west L&C style

from *Lewis and Clark*, page 9

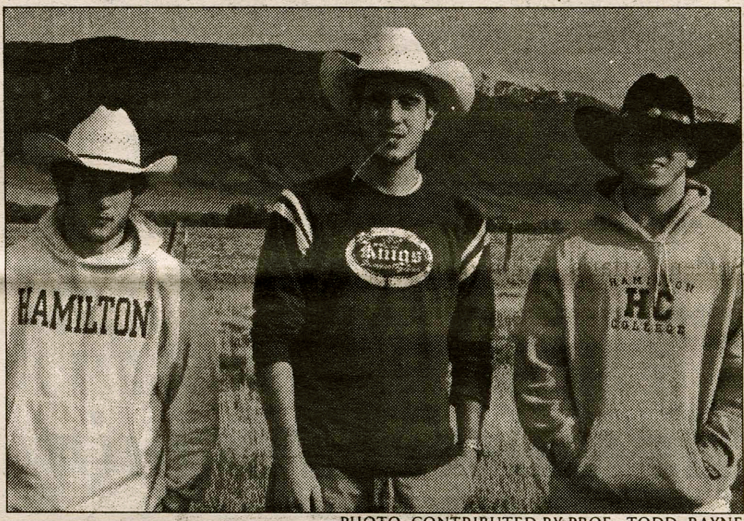

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY PROF. TODD RAYNE

Bill Oppenheim, Dan Cafarelli, and Daniel Roston.

the course. In addition to critically reviewing many interpretive centers along the way, the trip will feature students reading from the Lewis and Clark journals en route and writing their own accounts of the journey. This year it will also feature a daylong canoe trip on the Missouri River (paddling and floating downstream, not dragging the boats upstream like the members of the original expedition did), and a night spent soaking in Lolo Hot Springs after eating a buffalo roast dinner. The trip costs about $1900, but that's for everything except dinners. The cost can be lowered in some cases with financial aid from the College.

If you are interested in this type of sophomore seminar and you'd like to find out more about the course and trip, come to a meeting on Monday, November 1st at 7:00 p.m. in Saunders (formerly Chemistry) 111. We'll chat about the course, show some pictures from the trip and some of the members of the 2004 Corps of Discovery will be on hand to talk about their experiences on the trail.

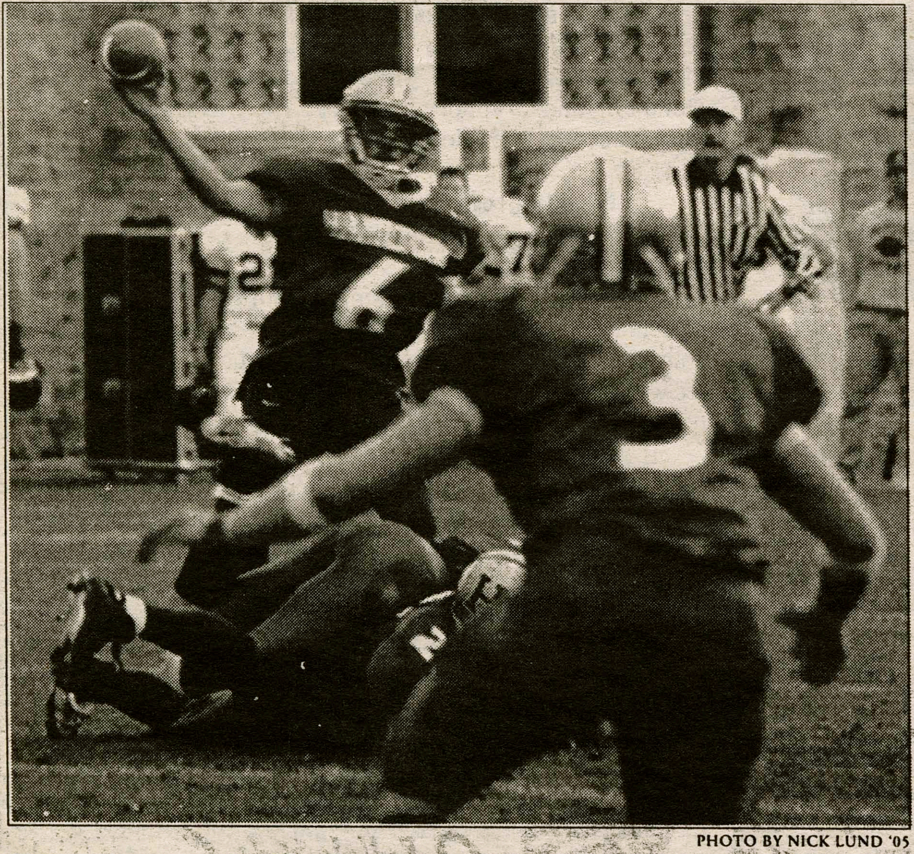

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Come cheer on the Continentals as they take on Amherst this Saturday on Stueben Field. The game starts at 1:30pm.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Family Weekend 2004
Saturday, October 30

9:30 a.m. President's Welcome and State of the College Address, *Wellin Hall*
11 a.m., 1 p.m., & 2 p.m. Science Center Tour and Talk, *Science Center*
11 a.m. Women's Soccer vs. 2003 NCAA Division III Champion SUNY Oneonta, *Love Field*
1:00p.m. Men's Soccer vs. SUNY Geneseo, Love Field
1:30 p.m. Football vs. Williams College, Steuben Field
1:30 p.m. Family College: Elections 2004, *Kirner-Johnson Auditorium*
1:30 p.m. Choral Concert and Dance Performance, *Wellin Hall*
4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Faculty and Family Reception, *Fillius Events Barn,*
6 & 6:45 p.m. Adirondack Adventure 2004 Slide Shows, *Kirner-Johnson Auditorium*
8 p.m. Concert with the Hamilton College Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble, *Wellin Hall*
10 p.m. A Cappella Concert Featuring the Buffers, Hamiltones, Special K and Tumbling After, *Chapel*

United South and Eastern Tribes visit Hamilton

by Marc C. David
ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS MULTICULTURAL STUDENT AFFAIRS

Kandice Watson of the Oneida Nation lead a delegation of the United South and Eastern Tribes Meeting (USET), to Hamilton College on October 26, 2004. The Annual USET Meeting is composed of the education directors and leaders of 26 tribes. Because this year's meeting was hosted in Oneida, N.Y. Mrs. Watson wanted the group to visit Colgate University or Hamilton College. Hamilton's founding as a school for the children of the Oneidas and New England settlers and the College's recent renaming of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity House in honor of Chief Skenandoa likely influenced her decision to visit Hamilton.

Upon, their arrival the USET visitors were welcomed by David Paris, Dean of the Faculty and Vice President of Academic Affairs; Andrea Duvall, Associate Dean of Admissions; Phyllis Breland, Director of Opportunity Programs and Posse Mentor; Cassandra Harrison Lockwood, Director of the Study Buddies Program; and Marc David, Assistant Dean of Students for Multicultural Student Affairs. The welcome included a continental breakfast, opening remarks by the hosts, and an information session by Andrea Duvall.

Referring to The Shape of the River by William Bowen and Derek Bok, Dean Paris stated in his welcome, "If Hamilton is going to be part of that set of institutions that help produce the next generation of leaders and if we want a diverse society from the top all the way through, then we need to build connections with the groups and programs visiting today...."

Dean Paris went on to say "We tend to think of current efforts at 'diversity' as a recent development but in fact there is a long if sometimes strained, if sometimes on again off again relationship between institutions like Hamilton and other parts of our society and different cultures."

Dean Paris concluded his remarks by explaining, "I am proud to say that Hamilton has become better of this[diversity efforts] in recent years - with some outreach programs to Native American students and its much more visible recognition of its founding and its connection to the Oneidas. Your visit," Paris continues, "is another step along this path, one that provides benefits not only for previously underrepresented groups, but for all students."

Before departing back to Oneida, NY for the remainder of their meeting,

USET visitors took a tour of the campus, including Skenandoa Hall as well as the Chief's grave site.

Currently, Native American students make up 0.7% of the student population. However, the arrival of the USET visitors and other efforts to reach out to the Native American community reveal, in the words of Mrs. Phyllis Breland, "a College whose history is coming full circle."

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Judicial Board?

There is currently a vacancy on the Board for the Class of 2006.

If you are interested in filling this position, please respond to this e-mail (jboard@hamilton.edu).

Please feel free to contact current class representatives for details about the responsibilities and experiences of J-Board members:
Tom Heacock '06 (theacock@hamilton.edu),
Taylor Austin '06 (taustin@hamilton.edu), or
Sean O'Connell, Chair (soconnel@hamilton.edu).

The purpose of the Judicial Board is "to uphold community standards and insure the protection of students' rights in questions of alleged violation of college policy" (Judicial Board Constitution). Hamilton College's Standards of Conduct can be found online at http://my.hamilton.edu/college/student_handbook/prohibitedconduct.html.

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Pizza

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1 Item	6.75	9.95
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3 Items	7.75	11.95
4 Items	8.50	12.95

Small = 8 pieces Large = 16 pieces

Items
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Slices
Garlic Slices 1.16 each + tax
Pizza Slices 1.16 each + tax
Extras 35c each

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20 Wings 6.75
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50 Wings 13.95
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Information Session in New York City
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Friday, November 19

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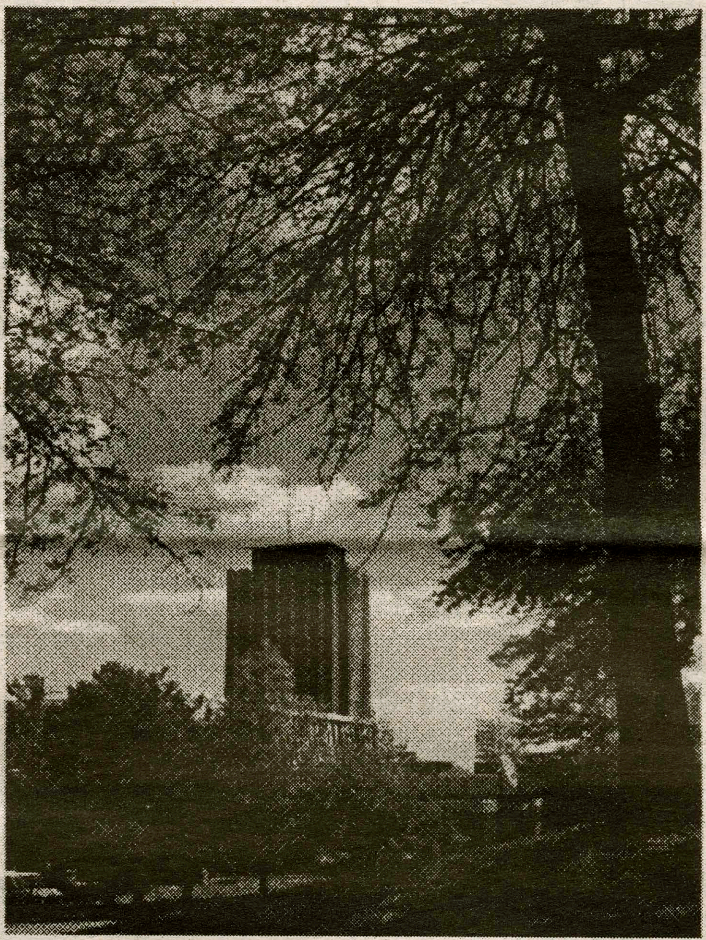

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http://gradschool.binghamton.edu

Business & Economics

Financial Market Summary: 10/21-10/28

by Dave Kelland '05
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS WRITER

The divergence of two major U.S. equity indices continued this week as the Dow Jones Industrial Average made a new low for 2004 on Monday and the NASDAQ-100 reached a 3-month high of 1491 today. The S&P 500 tended to follow the technology sector, rallying 3.4% from Monday's intraday low of 1090 to close on Thursday at 1127. The past three days have given the U.S. equity rally, which began in March of 2003, a new lease on life. Had buying interest not emerged, deeper consolidation of stocks and a test of the August low might have occurred. As it happened though, we have seen three days of short covering combined with real buying interest bringing the S&P 50 back above its 50-day and 200-day moving averages. Assuming there is not another election fiasco, which is a significant assumption, the bullish picture for stocks remains intact.

Google shares have lent much of the strength in the Internet sector. Following positive reports after the close last Thursday, the stock rallied an incredible 29% to close at 193.30 today. Google had its initial public offering, or IPO, in August, with shares priced at $85.

The chip sector has finally gained some momentum. The Philadelphia Semiconductor Index, or SOX, touched a 10-week high today to close at 412, 17% above its August low. The damage in semiconductors seems to have ended.

Oil prices finally broke this week, closing on Thursday just below $51 per barrel. The sharp downward turn was initially spurred by U.S. Government reports indicating larger domestic oil reserves than Wall Street had expected. Also dragging down light sweet crude oil is China's recent economic slowdown. China's budding economy, which quickly became the world's number two consumer of oil, seems to be backing off its unsustainable pace, implying a global decrease in demand. The pullback gave relief to equity investors who had feared higher energy prices would slow the U.S. economic recovery. Initial support should emerge at around $50 per barrel.

After climbing for weeks, gold also trended lower this week, losing $2 per ounce on Wednesday alone. Lower oil prices and some profit-taking attributed to the consolidation.

The U.S. Dollar continued to fall against the Yen this week, trading at ¥106.30 today. A drop below the April low of ¥103.50 would have the dollar at a level not seen since 2000. The Japanese economy is highly dependent on exports to the West, so a stronger Yen may jeopardize the fragile Japanese economic recovery. A stronger Yen makes Japanese exports more expensive to foreign buyers, thus decreasing global demandfor Japanese goods. The Japanese government may resume its intervention in the foreign exchange markets, keeping its own currency relatively cheap.

During the winter of 2003-2004, East Asian central banks were some of the biggest buyers of U.S. Dollars. The central banks then invested those dollars into U.S. Treasuries, keeping US interest rates down. The British Pound spent the week consolidating some of its recent gains versus the USD and traded at $1.83 today.

U.S. Treasury prices broke on Wednesday on fears that lower oil prices might lead to future interest rate hikes. The benchmark 10-year note closed at 4.05% today. The 30-year bond closed to yield 4.81% and the 5-year note yielded 3.3%.

WWW.ICF.SOM.YALE.EDU/NYSE/DOWNLOADS.PHP

Traders, brokers and specialists bump shoulders all day on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Finance 101... because you can never be too smart

This week: what is a bond?

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS EDITOR

Girls, imagine walking into a Bundy party and seeing two groups of guys. One group is behaving wildly, dancing up a storm, making moves on all the girls, and appears to be having an excellent time. Turn your head to a quiet corner and you notice a bunch of conservatively dressed gentlemen having a mature conversation. You have found the bad boys and nice guys.

Stocks, like bad boys, are much more exciting. You never know what to expect. They can make you the happiest girl in the world, then turn around and break your heart the very next night, leaving you to wonder what you did wrong. On the other hand, nice guys, like bonds, offer little in the way of exhilaration. Though quite predictable, you can expect periodic gifts from them and a great sense of security. So girls, who do you choose?

At a party, nice guys often finish last, but the same isn't necessarily true for security investments. Stocks can earn investors a fortune in a very small amount of time, but many shareholders have lost their shirt looking for a winner. Very few people can claim they have made tremendous profits or lost a lot of money with bonds. Rather, bonds are bought for security, predictability and periodic interest payments.

In addition to corporations, national, state and municipal governments, as well as government agencies, can all issue bonds. For the most part, bonds are planned investments. Almost everything is known about one before it is purchased. For investors, purchasing a bond is synonymous with making a loan to the issuer. The issuer promises to pay the loan amount back in full on a set date and make periodic interest payments in gratitude for the loan.

The loan amount, called the face value, is normally $1,000 per bond. Issuers reimburse bondholders on the maturity date. Bonds can have maturity dates from a few weeks to over thirty years in the future. Interest payments are made to the bondholder in accordance with the stated coupon rate. The coupon rate, also known before purchasing a bond, is given as a percentage of the face value and is most often paid semi-annually. So, for example, a bond maturing in 10 years with a coupon rate of 10% and a face value of $1,000 will provide interest payments of $100, and a final reimbursement, known as the principal payment, of $1,000 in 2014.

Similar to a stock, the market value of a bond depends on the issuing body. However, credit rating is the most important attribute of a bond issuer. If the issuer's credit rating is excellent, the bond will retain its value because little chance exists of the issuer defaulting on a payment. On the other hand, if an issuer's credit rating is poor, the bond will trade at a price much lower than its face value because the issuer may not be able to make interest and principal payments, rendering the bond all but worthless. It's like loaning money to friends.

If you have two friends, Darryl and Dwight, who have good jobs and are generally responsible, you would feel safe lending $100 to both of them. In return, Darryl and Dwight both give you an I.O.U. with a date on it. As long as both Darryl and Dwight keep their jobs and show no sign of fiscal irresponsibility, those I.O.U.'s are essentially worth $100. Now, imagine Darryl's boss fires him, Darryl can't find a new job, and all his money is put toward simply surviving. The I.O.U Darryl gave you is all but worthless because he won't be able to pay you by the indicated date. However, Dwight's I.O.U. is still worth $100. Herein lies the single most important risk to bond investors: the ability of issuers to make principal and interest payments.

Bonds are generally issued by four separate entities; the national government, government agencies, municipal governments and corporations.

Bonds issued by the United States Government, called Treasuries, are considered to be the safest bonds in the world. To accomodate investors and its own needs, the Treasury issues three different types of debt securities.

Treasury bills, issued with a minimum value of $10,000, are very short-term debt obligations, usually with maturities of less than a year. Treasury notes mature in five to ten years and are issued in denominations of $1,000 or, $5,000. Treasury bonds have maturities of ten to thirty years and are issued in denominations of $1,000.

All Treasuries are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. The government can either levy taxes on its citizens or issue new debt securities if fears of defaulting on payments arise. If the United States Government asked to borrow a few dollars from you, rest assured, they will pay you back. Treasuries are issued to finance the government's ongoing expenditures.

Government agency bonds are issued by the likes of the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Government National Mortgage Association, the Student Loan Marketing Association, and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association. These corporations are government sponsored, but have separate finances from the U.S. Treasury. However, the U.S. Government can bail out any of these agencies in the case of a fiscal emergency. These agencies issue bonds to fund government-subsidized home and student loans. Purchasing an agency bond is just like holding the other side of a student or home loan.

Next up on the risk ladder are municipal bonds. Municipal governments such as states, cities and towns issue municipal bonds, or muni's for short, to fund projects and programs. Many investors are attracted to muni's because they offer tax-free income. Corporate and Treasury bond payments are taxed at the bondholder's income tax rate, but most muni's are exempt from federal income taxes and sometimes local income taxes as well. Muni's are still very safe because cities and states don't often go broke. Furthermore, some muni's are backed by the power of the state to tax citizens to pay off debt obligations.

Corporate bonds are the riskiest type of debt security, but offer the highest coupon rates in return. Corporations of any size can issue bonds to finance expansion, research or a new product. Physical assets, such as a factory or equipment, or a simple note of obligation usually back corporate bonds. Corporations have a much higher chance of defaulting on payments than governments because corporations have a limited amount of assets, whereas governments have the power to tax citizens in order to make debt payments.

Next week, read about buying and selling bonds.

Put your money where your vote is!

Statisticians and odds-makers take a different path in forecasting the President-Elect

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS EDITOR

Recent studies by Hamilton College and Harvard University show a majority of college students favor Senator John Kerry over President George W. Bush. National polls across all age groups show the two candidates separated by a razor- thin margin. While polls are nice to look at and read, a single survey's accuracy can be extremely biased. With this in mind, math junkies and bookies have devised their own methods of prediction.

Though betting on the election is illegal here in the states, gamblers across the pond are viewing it as one long sporting event. At oddschecker.com, risk seekers can bet on anything from the 2005 World Championship of Darts to the 2004 United States Presidential Election. They can place wagers on voter turnout, the winner of the popular vote, the conqueror of West Virginia, and many other variables facing the election.

So what are the odds? Believe it or not, every internet bookie I found gives George W. Bush a significant margin to win in 2004. One bookmaker, Pinnacle Sports, will currently pay $2.24 for every dollar if John Kerry wins, but only $1.75 on the dollar for a Bush victory. Other sites have similar payouts, but none favor Mr. Kerry. His best odds, given by SportingBet, pay $2 for every dollar wagered.

Want some motivation to vote? One website, BlueSQ.com, believes that less than 56.5% of Americans will cast a ballot come Election Day. They will pay $22 for every ten dollars bet if that proportion is exceeded, but only ten dollars for every 6 dollars bet if less than 56.5% of eligible voters turn out.

Bookies favor Kerry in Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, and Wisconsin. Bush is favored in Florida, Iowa, Missouri, Nevada, and West Virginia.

If you're in the mood for a long-term gamble and don't like stocks and bonds, you can bet on the 2008 Presidential Election. Get ready for this: Hillary Clinton is the current frontrunner according to PaddyPower, an Irish bookmaker.

Math whizzes are also doing their best to predict who will be sitting in the Oval Office next year. Professors and mathematicians analyze thousands of surveys using some of the most advanced statistical calculators. They then form probabilities for a huge number of small events, allowing them to reach a final conclusion as to the winner of Election 2004. According to a Wall Street Journal article, predictions range from a 78.1% chance of a Bush victory to a 73.9% chance of Kerry being elected. One professor of molecular biology predicts that if Bush can carry Florida, his win probability increases to 88%, as opposed to 20% if the state falls to Kerry. By the way, the bookmaker BlueSQ favors Bush in Florida.

UPDATE on SENIOR GIFT 2005:

Laying the foundation for a strong future

The money collected from our class and from the Trustee Challenge will be used for the renovation of ELS. Specifically our class would like to play an important role in funding what will be the patio area of ELS.

You can make your gift in honor of anyone that has made your Hamilton experience worthwhile. Each honoree will receive acknowledgement of your kindness.

What is the Trustee Challenge?

A total of $10,000 will be donated by the trustees if we reach a Senior Class participation rate of 90%. All gifts to the 2005 Senior Gift and/or the 2005 Annual Fund count for total class participation
(The average ranges from $15-$25. A gift of $20.05 is symbolic of our class).

Trustee Challenges Deadlines:

November 12th - 25% Participation for additional $1,000
December 10th - 50% Participation for additional $2,000
March 4th - 75% Participation for additional $2,500
April 21st - 90% Participation for additional $4,500

Important Date:
March 4th - Alumni Council Reception to honor the Senior Class

Incentives:

If you contribute by November 12, you will receive 5% off your Senior Week Pass

Questions? Ideas? Thoughts? Please contact a member of the Senior Gift Committee:
Ginny Smith, Co-Chair or Katie Plumb, Co-Chair

Ben Auerbach, Ben Turner, Caroline Steers, Duncan Cameron, Elizabeth Dyke, Liz Dolan, Erica Gomez, Emmie Robinson, Hannah Toce, Juliette Senk, Lindsay Manson, Melissa Lewis, Tanya Namad, Sarah Peach, Sharlene Slagen and Tricia Czeski

*Thank you to everyone who has contributed!!!

Arts & Entertainment

Dar Williams acoustically rocks Wellin

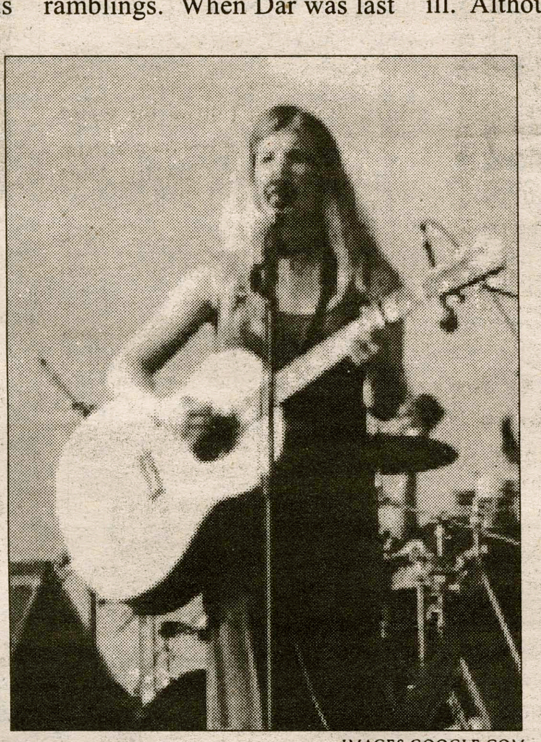
by Allison Kerbel '05
SENIOR COPY EDITOR

On Saturday, October 23, folksinger Dar Williams performed in Wellin Hall, sponsored by CAB as part of the Acoustic Coffeehouse Series (not that the performance was acoustic, or that Wellin is a coffeehouse - but as Wellin seats more people than the Barn, I was in favor of the change from the usual location). The last time Dar performed at Hamilton was Valentines Day 2001, when even we seniors were still in high school. As an avid Dar fan, I'm thrilled that she managed to return before I graduate.

Dar Williams is a native of Northampton, MA (yeah, not stereotypical at all), where Kate Nocera '05 and I saw her in October 2001. At that concert, as well as on her live CD, *Out There Live*, Dar was accompanied by several other musicians who filled out the sound. At the Hamilton concert in Wellin, it was just Dar and her guitar, which is rare on her studio CDs (*The Honesty Room, Mortal City, Cry Cry Cry, The Green World, and The Beauty of the Rain*).

Dar is also a very honest singer, with an unpolished sound. In Wellin, she played all the old favorites ("When I Was A Boy," "The Christians and the Pagans," "Iowa"), and occasionally flubbed her lyrics. Nevertheless, most fans love Dar's sweet voice, touching lyrics and fun, inclusive stage presence more than a flawless performance.

The audience made plenty of requests, and Dar complied, for the most part. She also told stories about her husband and their new baby, and often got adorably sidetracked in her ramblings. When Dar was last at Hamilton, her second CD, *Mortal City*, had just been released; she related the news to the 2001 audience expecting them to be excited, but as Dar said, "They were just like, that's nice." Now that we know who she is, however, most of the requests were off Mortal City, including "February," "As Cool As I Am," "Iowa," and "The Christians and the Pagans."



IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Dar Williams rocked Wellin last Saturday, and by rocked Wellin, we mean girly acoustic rocking. Word.

In addition to her most recent CD, *The Beauty of the Rain*, Dar released a novel called Amalee in May 2004. The book is a first-person narrative told by Amalee, a young girl growing up in a free-spirited house whose father becomes seriously ill. Although some fans were a little nervous about whether Dar could bring her lyricism to prose, the book is as sweet as she is, the literary equivalent of many of her songs.

Courtney Robbins '03 opened for Dar, astounding the audience with amazing guitar playing and heartfelt lyrics. The other opener was Ana Egge, a folksinger who has been touring with Dar, whose music was slightly different and whose voice was strong but untrained. Several audience members agreed with me that Courtney outplayed Ana. Hopefully we can look forward to more Courtney Robbins at subsequent CAB events.

Information on Dar can be found at www.darwilliams.com. Information on Courtney Robbins can be found soon on her upcoming website http://www.courtneyrobbins.com/, and information on Ana Egge can be found at www.maplemusic.com/artists/aeg/.

Dia de la Raza celebrates Latino culture

by Sarah Wissel '08
A&E WRITER

For one and a half hours, several dozen Hamilton students and community members joined together to share and celebrate their culture, their Latino culture. The audience for this year's Dia de la Raza Latino culture fest was not exclusively Latino and the evening's performances were enlightening and entertaining for all present.

Dia de la Raza, an annual event sponsored by the Hamilton La Vanguardia Club, is an opportunity for students to share their Latino heritage through artistic presentations. The primary purpose is to create a venue in celebration of a common heritage, but Dia de la Raza also raises awareness on campus of Latino heritage and racism both at Hamilton and on a national level. As one performer put it, "In high school, I tried to keep an open mind at the expense of understanding my history." Many of the presenters expressed dismay at the attempts by many young Latino students to assimilate and consequently lose connection with their cultural history.

The event featured a presentation by Hamilton grad, and published poet, Danny Jose Custodio '03. During his time at Hamilton, Custodio discovered his talents and enthusiasm for poetry. He is currently attending the Kellogg School in Management, but his goal is to create schools around the country to "foster hope in those who live without promise." He believes that, "poem by poem, negativity will be erased." He shared eight original poems and read two from Latino poet Miguel Pinero of New York City. Like the other performances, Custodio's message was designed for the Latino community, but some elements were applicable to the general college community, particularly that of the poem, "Addiction." He prefaced the recitation by stating that "today we're addicted to many things and usually they're destructive," and encouraging his listeners to "find an addiction that's good for them." The poem used drug lingo to explore the effect of literature: "My brothers and sisters, here's a pad and a pen; isn't it time you took a hit?"

Custodio was preceded by a number of other poetry recitations by Hamilton students, including original works in English, Spanish, and 'Spanglish.' The Hamilton Capoeira Club also exhibited their martial arts talents. La Vanguardia officers Nilson Rosario '05 and Vladimir Rodriguez '06 introduced each speaker using first names only creating a casual, friendly environment for the poets.

Presenter Jason Paulino noted the "very pleasant vibe" of the evening, summarizing the night as being "all about experience." Several students did note the lack of variety in the presentations. With the exception of the Capoeira performance, the evening was about expressing one's Latino heritage through poetry.

Badass Movie Reviews: *Team America: World Police*

by Tim Mudie '05
A&E EDITOR

It has been said that this year may very well hold the most important election of our lifetime. Time will tell whether that is true or not, but one thing is certain: this year has seen some of the most important political movies of our lifetime. There was *Fahrenheit 9/11, The Manchurian Candidate* (way better with Sinatra) and, of course, *The Prince and Me*. But perhaps the best of them all is the one without an overt message, but the one that is simply badass, hilarious and poignant. Yes, I'm talking about *Team America: World Police*. While *Fahrenheit 9/11* examined the stealing of the 2000 election and the war in Iraq and *The Prince and Me* offered an illuminating view into the Dutch political process (I think. That may be a different movie. I didn't actually watch it), none of the political movies came close to the level of badass or hilarity that *Team America* has. Of course, none of those other movies were made by Trey Parker or Matt Stone (the *South Park* guys).

I've read some articles and seen some shows about *Team America* (making this the most researched article I have ever done) so I feel like I know what the guys were trying to do. Basically, they've said that they wanted to make a Jerry Bruckheimer action movie, but with puppets. This is just more proof that Trey Parker is a genius. Why? Because he somehow knew that a Jerry Bruckheimer movie with puppets is straight-up one of the funniest things you will ever see. And they go the extra mile for jokes. The dialogue sounds like it is from all of the worst action movies you've ever seen. All the characters are ultra-serious, even when doing the most absurd things, like blowing up the Eiffel Tower in order to "save" Paris from a terrorist attack. And, of course there is copious blowin' stuff up. I mean, this is a badass movie.

Like *South Park: Bigger, Longer and Uncut, Team America* features plenty of music. However, it's not a musical. For no reason at all, Kim Jung Il sings a song about being lonely, but that's the only "musical-like" part. Otherwise it is filled with hilarious songs that play in the background during various scenes. I've heard that Trey is something of a musical genius. Like Jay-Z, he goes into a room with nothing written down, comes up with a song, records it and is done. Now that's some talent. And I for one would argue that the team's theme song "America: F*** Yeah" is as good as anything Jay-Z has written. Except "99 Problems." That song is off the hook!

MOVIES.YAHOO.COM

Is there anything more badass than walking through a pile of puppet bodies? No.

Oddly enough, I know a number of people who really don't like this movie because they feel it has no message. I would argue that it does have a message, but people think it doesn't because the message is (amazingly) non-partisan. Essentially, what the guys are saying is this: everyone needs to chill the *bleep* out. And they do mean *everyone*. Parker and Stone make fun of absolutely everyone, from Kim Jung Il to Alec Baldwin to Michael Moore. It all comes to a climax in a stirring speech that federal regulations prohibit me from repeating in this article. Again, the main message is to chill out. The right needs to chill with all the blowing stuff up and getting involved in other peoples' problems when they don't want help. The left needs to stop being such whiny bitches all the time. Yet, while this is true, Parker and Stone have no suggestions for what to do. How can we keep ourselves safe but not piss off the rest of the world? Can we be safe and at peace? Parker and Stone don't answer these questions. But really, they don't have to. I mean, these guys aren't running for office, they make a cartoon about potty-mouthed fourth-graders.

As for the badassness... hell, do you really need me to tell you how badass this is? There's tons of shooting, stuff getting blown up (not just the Eiffel Tower, but the Sphinx, the Louvre and pretty much anything that's around) and gratuitous, gratuitous violence. Oh boy! And if you've ever wanted to see Matt Damon, Helen Hunt, Ethan Hawke, Michael Moore (regardless of their political views, the guys hate him) or any number of other celebrities die a hilariously terrible death, check this guy out. In fact, check this movie out anyway. See it before the election. It won't change your vote, but you'll laugh a lot, which will help you to not think about how horrible November third could be. This has been **Badass Movie Reviews**. Next week: *The Polar Express*.

Mithat's Gaming Corner Presents: *Megaman Anniversary Collection*

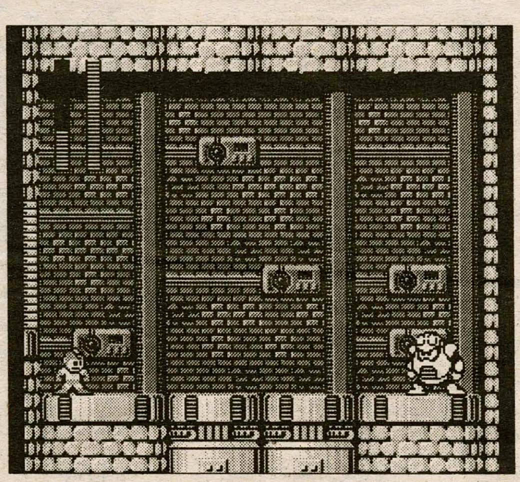
"I personally approve of this game review." - Mithat

by Whit Rothe '05
A&E EDITOR

These days, consumers have an abundant number of choices of video games to choose from. Not only are there three consoles, Xbox, Playstation 2 and the Nintendo Gamecube, but computers also allow for unlimited options of games with sophisticated graphics and multi-player internet capabilities. However, it seems that the old Nintendo games, such as "Duck Hunt," "Tecmo Super Bowl," and "Super Mario Bros.," will never lose their appeal to me. While the newer games are complex and keep me entertained for hours on end, there is just something about squishing Goombas and running 80 yard touchdowns with Bo Jackson that never gets old. That was why I was immediately attracted to the "Megaman Anniversary Collection" when it was released for the Gamecube.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the adventures of the "Megaman" series, here's a quick recap. The original was released in 1987 on the original NES and the basic concept was that the evil Dr. Wily invents robots that start doing evil stuff. Dr. Light, Wily's former partner invents Megaman to go out and destroy all of the evil robots, and then defeat Wily himself. This plot, with several twists, was basically repeated over eight different games because Wily would keep escaping at the beginning of each game.

Weird Japanese plot aside, it's your basic NES jump on platforms, destroy robots, avoid danger, don't die kind of game. The sweetest thing though was that after Megaman defeated a robot, he got to use that robot's powers on subsequent robots. For instance, after defeating Fireman, Megaman could use the Firebeam on Iceman, then use the Icebeam to destroy Elecman, and so on and so forth. Of course, that system got kind of confusing by the time "Megaman 3" rolled out with names such as Shadowman, Topman, and Snakeman.



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Megaman vs. Toadman. A duel to the death, 8-bit Nintendo style! Toadman!? Wow, they were really running out of ideas by "Megaman 4."

Again, I might be old school, but jumping on platforms and destroying robots never seems to get old to me. The best thing about this collection is you get all eight "Megaman" games and a few bonus games for only $30! The originals used to cost $50 a pop. That's a $400 value and with the Gamecube's save feature, you don't have to write down those cryptic passwords anymore. Considering that "Megaman 3" was the last game in the series that I played, I now have five more games to beat and so many more robots to destroy. Now if only my thesis were a series of giant robots, I would be all set.

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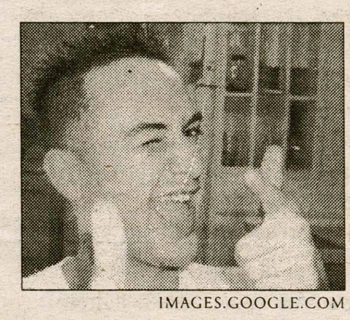
Johnny sez:

"Yo parents! Make your kids write for A & E!"



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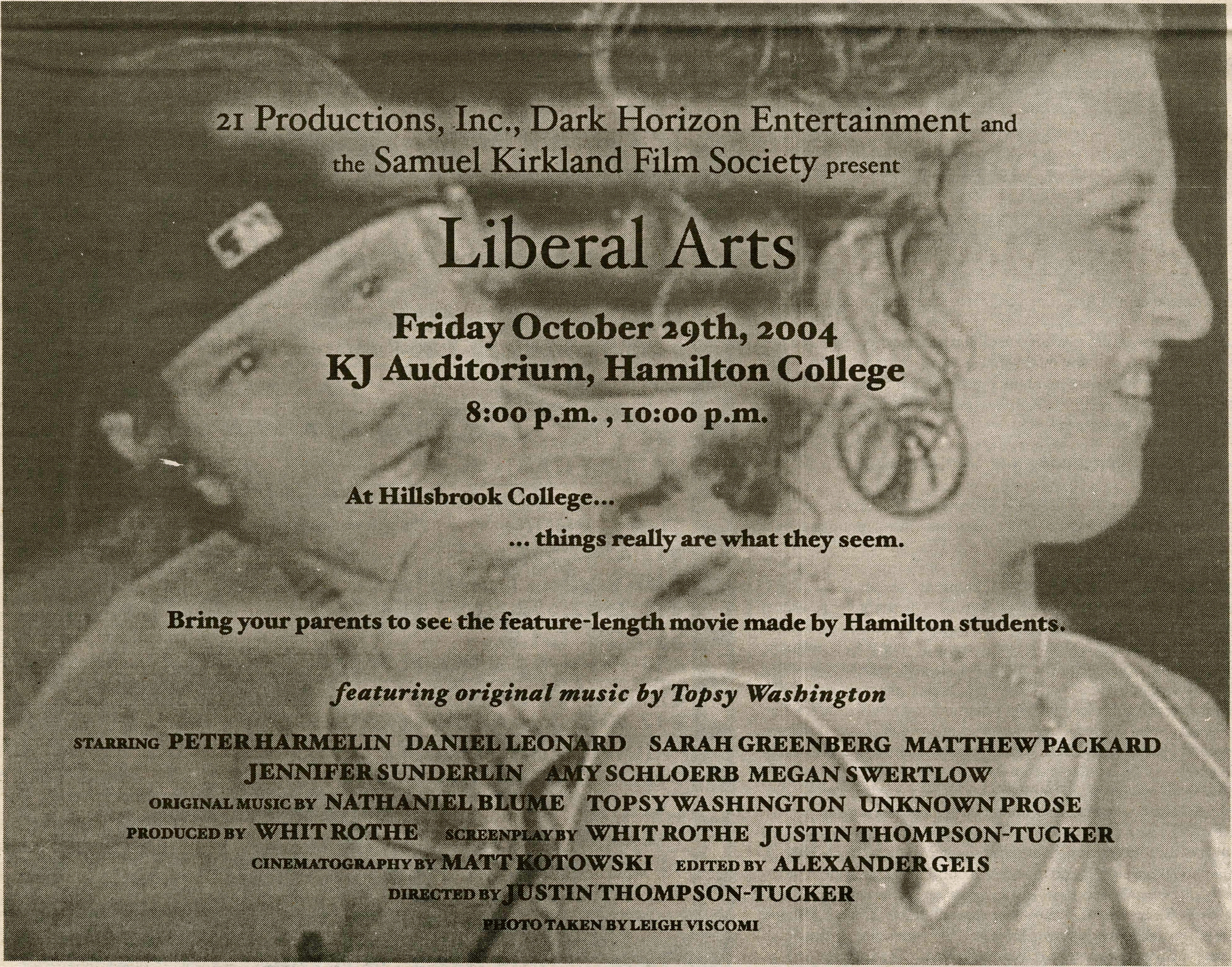

Reign of Fire: crappy movie or ecological allegory?

by Tim Mudie '05
A&E EDITOR

While I was here at college, my parents made an amazing purchase, indeed a life-changing purchase. They got On Demand Cable and holy crap is it sweet. It is also a great way to watch lots and lots of movies. See, with On Demand, the participating channels (HBO and the like) pick a bunch of movies, shows and specials and somehow you can pick whatever one you want to watch whenever you want to watch it. How this is done escapes me. (I think that there is a tiny man living in my TV, but I can't prove it). What this means is that you no longer have to dedicate time to watching a movie and so it is easy to watch movies you would never otherwise watch. This is how I came to find myself watching *Reign of Fire* one Sunday night. But, while watching the movie, I came to a major conclusion. *Reign of Fire* is not a terrible movie about dragons. Well, ok, it is a terrible movie about dragons on the surface, but with a little critical pretension and the right drugs, *Reign of Fire* can become a moving ecological parable.

Before I explain why this film is a deep ecological parable, I need to explain how I came to this conclusion. First, I was high. Second, this movie stars Christian Bale and Matthew McConaughey and, while neither is Tom Hanks, they generally don't choose absolutely atrocious movies so there must be something else there. And there is.

The basic premise of *Reign of Fire* sounds simple (if implausible) enough: Dragons are real but have been hibernating for millennia (under London, no less) until humans accidentally wake them, which leads to the dragons destroying the world and driving the remaining humans into small groups, doing whatever they can to survive. But when we look at the story in greater depth, we see that there is more to this story than meets the eye. You see, it turns out that dragons are part of a natural cycle. Apparently, dinosaurs were becoming too much for the environment to handle and so the dragons came along and burned them all. Like locusts, the dragons did not care about the long-term consequences of this, but just kept burning everything they saw (and eating the ash, which I have no explanation for) until there was nothing left to burn and they died out/went into hibernation. And what is it that wakes these dragons for a second time? People, that's what. Could it be that humanity is too much for the environment? Is the extinction of humanity the only way to save the world in the long run? These questions aren't actually brought up in the film, of course, but any literary scholar will tell you that you have to read between the lines.

The dragons caused the dinosaurs to go extinct and it looks like they're well on their way to destroying humanity as well, thus saving the Earth from demise. Then, Christian Bale and his small group of survivors are visited by Matthew McConaughey and his group of American Marines (how they got to England, got their equipment and other logistical issues are not explained). McConaughey has killed dragons and is planning on taking out the alpha male, the only male dragon in the world. If he kills this one dragon, the rest of the species will die forever. This further demonstrates that dragons, while serving a purpose, are not the pinnacle of evolution. Regardless, McConaughey, Bale and the others set out for London.

There's never any real doubt that the group will win. A bunch of minor characters die along the way, but the good guys still kill the male dragon, thus condemning an entire species to a slow and painful extinction with one fell swoop. Sure, this looks like a happy ending. After all, humanity will survive, the dragons will die and the world will recover. But will it? The dragons, however fearsome and dangerous, are part of the natural world, as important a piece in the structure of the global environment as any species. Now that humanity cannot be kept in check, will they get back on the world-destroying track they had previously been on? History tells us that they will. And so, by triumphing over the dragons, humankind has doomed itself to extinction and the planet to destruction. Sweet job, Bale.

Perhaps, instead of making fun of *Reign of Fire*, we should watch it as it was surely intended, a stern warning about humanity's overpopulation and inefficient use of resources. Because this is clearly not just a crappy movie about dragons. Well, not only a crappy movie about dragons at least.

IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Bale and McConaughey discuss dragon slaying. Then, they tongue kiss. Haha, not really... it sure looks like they're about to though, huh?

IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Let this serve as a warning to anyone studying abroad in London: there be dragons! Seriously...Tim had to avoid fire attacks, razor sharp teeth and crumbling buildings on his way to class.

Film Fraseology

by Andrew Whalen '08
A&E COLUMNIST

Slow and fast motion remains a useful, if overused, tool in the art of movie creation. I know bullet-time is cool, but how many slow-motion explosions does one movie really need? Now fast-motion explosions, there is the wave of the future. So to cover both angles the Film Frase of the week is:

Overcranking and Undercranking

Pretentious Movie Snob Example Sentence: The overcranking ably demonstrates the formalism inherent in the director of photography's tour-de-force lighting.

Spell check insists that "over" and "cranking" should be two separate words, but I will press on undaunted. Overcranking is when a camera's frames-per-second (fps) is juiced up while shooting. Say we kicked it up to 50 fps. Then went and played the film at the standard 24 fps. It would result in slow motion, since one second of overcranked film will take longer than one second to pass through the projector. The opposite is true of Undercranking. By turning down the fps, fast motion will result upon playback. The name originates back in the day when cameras were literally crank-operated. The camera operator would simply pump his arms slower or faster to produce the desired effect. Since reality is controlled by robots, the Internet and Microsoft today, manual labor is out of the picture. Instead of some poor sap pumping his arms in furious circles while sweat beads up on his forehead, we have cameras capable of being modified to shoot at fps as high as 20,000, in order to capture an explosion and drag it out as long as possible. On the opposite end of the spectrum, modern cameras can be undercranked to as low as 6 fps, making the final shot appear four times faster. So there you have it, slip these two gems into casual conversation or classroom discussion and you are guaranteed a spot on the Dean's List.

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●12:35●2:45▲4:55-7:05-9:15 DTS PG-13

SHARK TALE
●12:15●2:20▲4:25-6:30-8:30 PG

SHALL WE DANCE? RICHARD GERE
●12:00●2:15▲4:30-6:50-9:10 PG-13

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS
●12:05●2:25▲4:50-7:20-9:45 PG-13

LADDER 49 JOAQUIN PHOENIX
●12:00●2:15▲4:35-7:00-9:30 PG-13

TEAM AMERICA: WORLD POLICE
●1:20●3:25▲5:30-7:40-9:50 R

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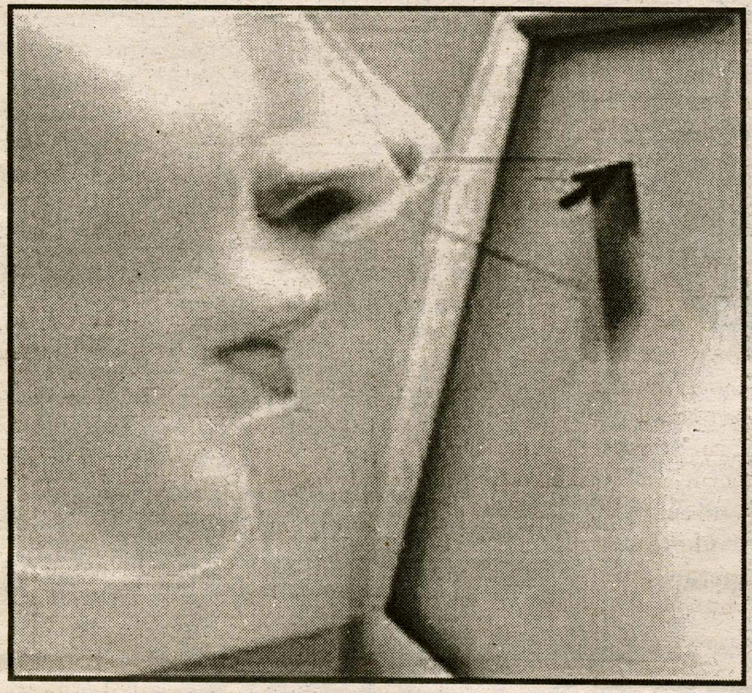
What's a nouse?

by Katrina Lexa '05
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Imagine if every time you turned your head to talk, your computer's cursor moved in the same direction. Or if you bobbed your head to music, you'd shift an entire paragraph down a page. Actually, the nouse has built in technology to avoid simple frustrations like that, but the idea is able to write software that could track the nose's movements precisely. Despite the resolution limitations of the cheapest Webcam, the nose is such a prominent facial feature that it is easily located. As Gorodnichy points out, "the nose is located very conveniently in the middle of the face." Also, the tip of the nose doesn't change its position to any great extent when the head



HTTP://GRAPHICS8.NYTIMES.COM/IMAGES/2004/10/27/TECHNOLOGY/28NEXT.JPG

Point and click using your nose and a double blink.

the same.

Canadian researchers used new technology for a project designed to enhance the capacity of their space shuttle's robotic arm. This research project, completely Canadian in conception and implementation, set off a light bulb in one researcher's head. Dr. Dmitry O. Gorodnichy, computer vision scientist for National Research Council in Ottawa, Canada, had worked with the research team on designing a system that involved visual recognition of body motion. He realized that the same theory of visual recognition could be applied to computer technology, particularly for the severely handicapped or paralyzed.

Early attempts at computer recognition of bodily motions focused on eye movement. At first, researchers paired cameras to create a 3D image of the face. But this procedure, or others like headgear for the user, seemed much too complicated and expensive for many potential users. However, Gorodnichy found that the nose was much simpler to use for computer vision systems.

With a basic $25 Webcam, the Canadian researchers were is tilted, while other facial features (like eyebrows) do.

While Gorodnichy's group chose not to use eyes to track movement, they didn't reject them completely. In order to avoid the annoyance of constantly having your cursor jump all over the screen whenever you turn your head to talk to someone, the nouse can be turned on and off with the blink of an eye. Literally. When the Canadians' software detects a double blink, the nouse will turn itself on or off. However, instead of finding the eyes, the Webcam actually locates the eyes by way of the nose.

Blinking may become a method by which users could right-click with their nouse. Gorodnichy remarked to reporters, "I'm not very good at winking, and it's just very convenient to blink several times."

While Gorodnichy has not yet finalized the ultimate market for his project, he believes that the first beneficiaries will included hospital patients who are almost completely paralyzed. With software and Webcam, patients could summon nurses to their side by a double-blink.

Little people, big dragons

by Katrina Lexa '05 and Jonathan Rees '06
SCIENCE EDITORS

The editors of the Science section, along with the entire *Spectator* staff, have the utmost respect for the beliefs of others on this campus and throughout the world. If you have ever taken a biology class with Professor Williams, you will no doubt hear him say something to the effect of, "Science gives us information and facts. It does not provide us with the ability to tell right from wrong." Although science does not deal with moral issues, it explains important phenomena, such as evolution.

According to a recent survey, 45% of middle aged Americans don't believe in evolution. And we're willing to bet that there exists a certain percentage of non-believers on this campus. The faith explanation of creation, believe it or not, is still popular in the world; the majority of the world's inhabitants still think in this way. We would like to provide a little evidence that runs contrary to the creation theory for those who do not believe in Darwin's theory of evolution.

When Darwin revealed his theory over 150 years ago, it was deemed heresy. Since then, numerous books and thousands of peer-reviewed articles have been written singing its praises. While evolution still remains a 'theory', one must remember that electricity is also a theory, but that seems to be working out for everyone, doesn't it? If you have ever been skeptical about evolution, then you should do some more research and if you are still not satisfied, please write a letter to the editor and we are happy to address your concerns. . .

Recently, an important discovery about the evolutionary past of humans was discovered...

Once upon a time, on an island tucked away from the rest of the world, evolution took a twist for the bizarre. Dragons really existed. And standing no more than three feet tall, *homo floresiensis* really hunted them. Yes, *homo floresiensis*. Our cousin. They lived over 13,000 years ago, on Flores island, 370 miles east of Bali.

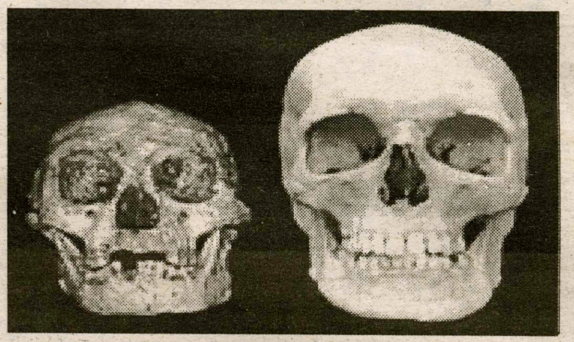
A team of archaeologists from Australia and Indonesia uncovered skeletons of these dwarven people in a limestone cave on Flores, and nearby lay the remains of animals they hunted. According to two anthropologists from the University of Cambridge, and unassociated with the research team, the discovery of a new species related to *homo sapiens* is "among the most outstanding discoveries in paleoanthropology for half a century."

Possibly living up to historic times, "little Floresians" were not a pygmy modern people, but instead a miniature *homo erectus*. The eastern cousin of the Neanderthals of Europe, *homo erectus* disappeared 33,000 years ago.

This discovery has huge implications of modern understanding of man, because it means that upon leaving Africa 1.5 million years earlier than modern man, archaic people lived much longer than formerly believed.

Until recently, the isolated Indonesian island of Flores was inhabited by a very unique set of animals that had the fortune to reach it. This small group of animals underwent evolutionary forces that drove some inhabitants to dwarfism and others to giantism.

Komodo dragons, the modern day equivalent of the carnivorous lizards that found Flores, evolved to giant proportions. Although concentrated mainly on the nearby island of Komodo, these dragons reached up to ten feet long during the time of *homo floresiensis*. Elephants on Flores, on the other hand, shrank to the size of a small ox.



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Craniums: Archaic vs. modern.

Judging from the evidence of crude stone tools, Dr. Michael J. Morwood believes that *homo erectus* arrived on Flores about 840,000 years ago. Dr. Morwood is a member of the Australian-Indonesian team that found the Floresians, the first of which was uncovered last September - an adult female buried beneath twenty feet of slit under the floor of Liang Bua cave in Flores.

Since September, Dr. Morwood and his team has found six more individuals' skeletons, ranging from 95,000 to 13,000 years old.

Paleoanthropologists headed by Dr. Peter Brown from the University of New England in Armidale, Australia, reports that these skeletons are not fossilized, and although small, otherwise ressemble a normal human like *homo erectus*. Since the stature of these skeletons is so extremely small, even smaller than modern human pygmies, these skeletons from Flores have been assigned a new species.

Team members of the Australian-Indonesian group also uncovered numerous other skeletons that help explain how these little Floresians survived. Bones unburied include those of Komodo dragons up ten feet in length, pygmy elephants; giant rats, fish and birds. Although the Komodo dragons can eat animals the size of a deer, Floresians were able to hunt them since the cold-blooded lizard is sluggish at low temperatures and thus makes an easy kill.

The researchers also uncovered evidence that the Floresians knew how to use fire. The cave dig also unearthed considerably more advanced stone tools than any of those known to have been used by *homo erectus*.

Dr. Morwood believes that the stone tools indicate quite clearly the cognitive abilities of these early people. To have made these tools, he thinks the little Floresians must have also had some form of language. His line of reasoning stems from the idea that these stone tools, some of which include small blades possibly mounted on wood like a spear, signify that the little Floresians hunted together in groups to bring down the pygmy elephant.

If true, this discovery would be quite suprising, as the little Floresians have brains the smaller than a chipanzee and similar to the size of Australopithecenes. While possible that little Floresians did not necessarily live in a community situation like modern man, these findings do demonstrate the remarkable adaptability under the unique evolutionary pressures found on Flores.

Graduate School on the horizon? Bolster your resume and write for the science section. It will make you hotter.

A little bit of science for America's favorite pastime

by Jonathan Rees '06
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Baseball is hot on campus right now. It seems like there has been a drastic increase in the amount of girls from the Midwest wearing pastel, pink North Face fleeces accompanied by matching pink Boston Red Sox hats (thumbs down by the way). And if your defense to rooting for the Sox went something like, "Well, my best friend goes to school at BU, so I ..." then guess what? You jumped on the bandwagon.

Not that there's anything wrong with a bandwagon supporter. As a native of Boston, I truly appreciate everyone's praise of the "cursed to first" team.

I am sure that some baseball players, who are comfortable enough with their both their celebrity status and success, would not hesitate to reveal that their high school or college physics grades weren't nearly as impressive as their ability to strike a ball four hundred feet. But no matter what their grades were, there is a great deal of physics involved in hitting a homerun.

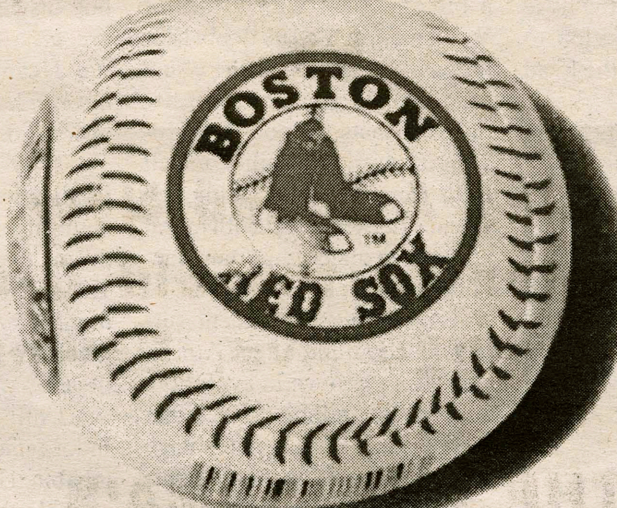
The city of Denver may be a pitcher's worst nightmare. For example, most sports fans know that playing football in the Mile-High city is difficult for visiting teams because the air is thinner at high elevations and therefore it is harder for players to breathe. A baseball hit in Denver experiences less drag by air molecules than in New York, which is close to sea level. Robert Adair calculated that a home run that traveled 400 feet at Yankee Stadium on a windless day would fly about 430 feet in Denver.

Robert Adair was a professor of physics at Yale University who was once appointed by the commissioner of baseball as "official physicist to the National League," and author of the book, *The Physics of Baseball*, highlighted several interesting facts about homeruns as well as a comprehensive physical explanation of our nation's favorite pastime.

Curveballs work by a simple mechanism. Pitchers force the air resistance of the ball to be greater on one side by making the ball spin. The ball reacts to the spin by moving away from the side with greater air resistance. This causes the ball to curve. Adair calculated that balls in Denver spin about 25% less than in Boston or New York.

The stitches on a baseball aid its flight time. A baseball hit 400 feet would only travel 300 feet without its raised stitches, according to Adair. Interestingly, he calculated that given the limitations of human strength, the rigidity of the bat, and the bounce of a baseball, the farthest distance anyone will ever be able to hit a ball is 545 feet.

So far Mantle continues to hold the homerun distance record for a ball he hit in 1953, which traveled 460 feet. At the end of its trajectory, it hit a beer sign. According to Adair, if that ball had not hit the beer sign then its trajectory would have carried it 506 feet.



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The *Spectator*, the science section and its respective editors are officially endorsing neither a presidential candidate nor a baseball team. Oh yeah, go Sox!

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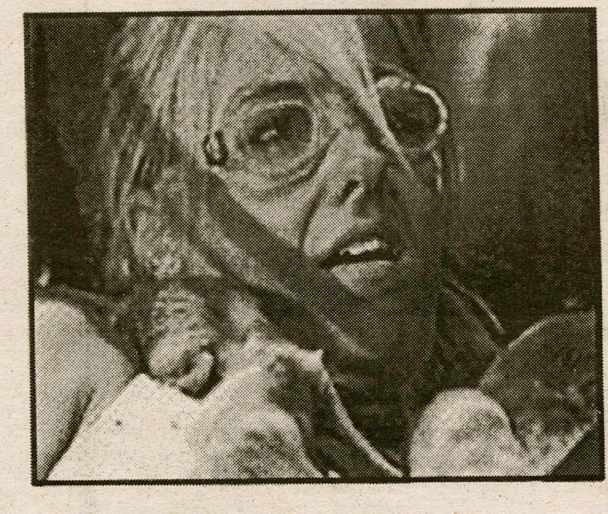

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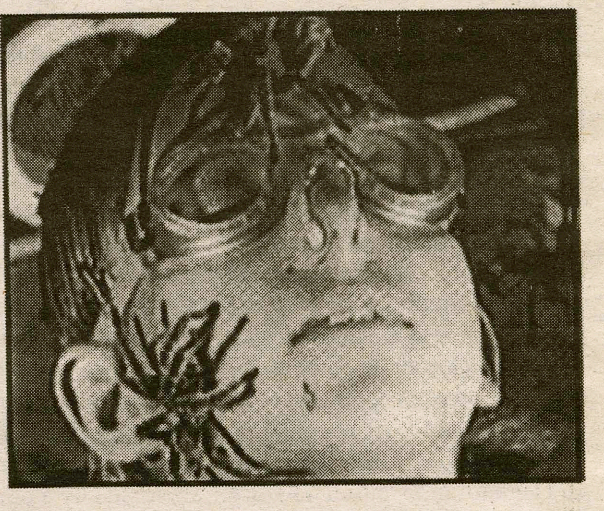

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Men's soccer loses crucial game to St. Lawrence, 2-1

Continentals prepare for Union in Liberty League championships next week

by Mike Hayes '06
SPORTS WRITER

Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Namath once said, "You learn you can do your best even when it's hard, even when you're tired and maybe hurting a little bit. It feels good to show some courage in the face of adversity." The men's soccer squad may have felt a bit discouraged and hurting last Friday after their heartbreaking 2-1 loss to archrival St. Lawrence University; however, going into the Liberty League playoffs they are feeling anything but down and out. Senior tri-captain Robbie Wang '05 spoke volumes saying, "Although we lost to St. Lawrence, we can at least walk away from the game knowing for certain that they are very beatable. The game could have gone either way." This doesn't exactly sound like a team who considers themselves down and out.

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Hamilton hopes to get back on the winning track Saturday before they face off against Union next Friday.

The men's soccer team wrapped up their regular season conference play last weekend against their North Country rivals, St. Lawrence University and Clarkson University. The Continental's escaped the weekend losing to St. Lawrence and playing to a scoreless tie with Clarkson.

The much anticipated game with nationally ranked St. Lawrence lived up to its billing as the top two teams in the Liberty League went head to head on Friday afternoon. St. Lawrence was able to jump out to an early 2-0 lead with goals from Senior Ezequiel Rodrigo and Junior Gil Schaper which proved to be enough as they held off a Continental comeback for the win. The Continental's lone goal came from Junior Aaron Smith '06 who scored his first goal of the season with only 2:19 to play in the first half. It was the Continental's inability to bury opportunities in the second half that gave the game to the Saints. Sophomore Zach Kelly '07 headed a ball toward the St. Lawrence net with less than two minutes to play in the game and the ball was deflected away at the last moment. "Had we capitalized on a few more chances, we would have been victorious Friday," commented Wang. "Fortunately, we were able to finish the season ranked 2nd in the conference, and St. Lawrence knows that we have them on their heels."

On Saturday, despite thirty-six combined shots, Hamilton Clarkson University played to a scoreless tie, the first scoreless tie since the 2000 season for the Continentals. Anthony Tripicchio '06 was once again very solid in net for Hamilton and recorded his sixth shut-out of the season making nine stops.

The continentals finished with a league record of 4-2-1 and currently stand with an overall record of 9-3-1 with one last non-league game this coming Saturday against SUNY Geneseo. The game will serve as a tune-up before the Continentals head north to Canton, NY where the Liberty League playoffs will be held at St. Lawrence University. Speaking on this season's success, Wang commented, "On the whole, we had a relatively successful season and came a long way from where we were at in early September, but it is not even close to over. We have the conference tournament to prepare for in a week, which is the reason we work so hard every day at practice."

Heading to SLU on November 5th, the Continentals are not only prepared to face off with the nationally ranked Saints in the finals, they are looking forward to it. Wang, who has never beaten SLU in his career said, "We don't want to overlook Union, but we cannot wait to play St. Lawrence again. We would rather face them than any other conference team. We just want one more shot at them." The Continentals will have to keep their heads in the notoriously tough atmosphere of Canton, NY, but it sounds like the Liberty League is long overdue for a change and Hamilton College is preparing to provide for just that. Despite the success of the 2004 season, Wang summed everything up by saying, "we have a lot to prove in Canton."

This weekend's sports schedule...

Friday October 29th
Volleyball at Tufts (8:00 pm)

Saturday October 30th
Women's Soccer vs. SUNY Oneonta (11:00)
X-Country @ NESCAC Championships
Men's soccer vs. SUNY Geneseo (1:00)
Football vs. Williams (1:30)
Volleyball at Amherst (2:30)

Golf team completes successful fall season

by Michael Osborne '05
SPORTS EDITOR

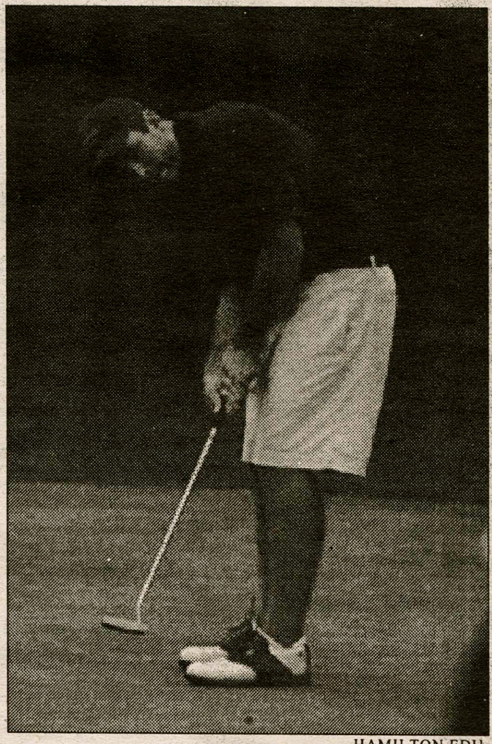
While women's soccer has been the talk of the campus because of its success, another fall team has gone under the radar in completing a fine season of its own. The men's golf team continued its strong play from last spring and recently completed another successful fall season.

The golf team competed in eight tournaments this fall, and fared well in all of them. While the big tournaments take place in the spring, the team picked up quite a bit of hardware this fall, which makes them a threat to be reckoned with once the spring season gets underway.

The team was led by the play of a number of underclassmen. 2003 NESCAC Rookie-of-the-Year, Chris Pike '07 and fellow sophomore, Blake McClennan, were the most experienced of their group and their play was solid throughout the fall. Freshmen Jim Burns, Mike Hayes, and Zach Yeager made quite a splash in their first season of college golf.

The team opened their season at the Colgate Invitational, and struggled to a 19th place finish against some very tough opponents. The team was led by Yaeger who shot 83-77 for the two-day tournament, which was good for a tie for 56th place. Matt Gardner '06 also played and finished one shot behind Yeager, which was good for a 59th place finish.

After a disappointing finish in the Williams Invitational, the team participated in the Liberty League Championships at Saratoga Spa Golf Course, the home course of Skidmore College. The results were different for the Continentals, as they won the Liberty League title for the first time with a team total of nine-over par. The team was led by Gardner, Hayes, and Yeager who all finished in a tie for 5th place after shooting 74's. Chris Pike also played strong and shot a 75, which was good for 9th place. Gardner, Hayes, and Yeager were all named to the Liberty League's First-Team as a result of their fine play. Pike was named to the league's second team. Head coach Al Highducheck was named the League's Coach-of-the-Year. The Liberty League Championships was also used as the ECAC Upstate New York Regional Qualifier, and the results were similar for Hamilton. The Continentals finished four shots behind winner, St. John Fisher, which was good enough a second place finish.



HAMILTON.EDU

Matt Gardner and the Continentals had a fine fall season as they won two team titles.

The team carried its momentum and fine play from the Liberty League Championships when it traveled to Middlebury's Ralph Myhre Golf Course for the NESCAC Championships and the Duke Nelson Invitational. The play of the team was good enough for second place in the NESCAC and for third place in the Duke Nelson Invitational. The team finished one shot behind a strong Williams team to finish in second place in the NESCAC. Zach Yeager and Chris Pike led the way for the Continentals by shooting a two-day total of 155, which was good for a second place finish. Yeager's fine play was rewarded as he was named the NESCAC Rookie-of-the-Year. Mike Hayes and Blake McClennan also played well, as they finished 11th and 16th respectively.

In the team's next tournament, Blake McClennan's 10th place finish led the Continentals to a 5th place finish in the ECAC Championships, which were played at Nazareth's Ravenwood Golf Course.

The team concluded the fall portion of its schedule on October 9th and 10th when it hosted the Hamilton-Shenendoah Invitational at Turning Stone's Kaluhyat and Shenendoah Golf Courses. The team's extraordinary play resulted in a first-place finish. The Continentals were led by Yeager who collected his first collegiate individual hardware, as he shot a two-day total of one-over par. His play was highlighted by a 68 on the final day. Mike Hayes finished in second place, only two shots behind Yeager. Dan Treichler '08 also recorded a top-ten finish.

The Continentals will now take the winter off before their season starts up again in the spring. With experience and success, the team is a force to be reckoned with. People should look for great things from the golf team this coming spring.

Beat the Experts

After a couple of "bye weeks" due to the Red Sox coming back from the Evil Empire and then sweeping the Cardinals, the Experts have refocused their priorities. This week all the Experts are Red Sox fans and we will continue to use Red Sox fans for the rest of the semester.

	Andrew DeCastro *Spectator Sports Editor*	Mike Osborne *Spectator Sports Editor*	Michael Proia *Spectator Senior Editor*	Nick Lund *Spectator Photo Editor*	Kevin Galvin *Senior Guest #6*
Season Record:	**25-24**	**27-22**	**28-21**	**26-23**	**26-23**
NFL					
New England @ Pittsburgh 10/31	Pats	Pats	Pats	Pats	Pats
Baltimore @ Philadelphia 10/31	Eagles	Eagles	Ravens	Eagles	Eagles
Green Bay @ Washington 10/31	Packers	Packers	Skins	Skins	Skins
Atlanta @ Denver 10/31	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Falcons	Falcons
Jacksonville @ Houston 10/31	Texans	Jaguars	Jaguars	Jaguars	Jaguars
College Football					
#21 Arizona State vs. #9 Cal 10/30	Bears	Bears	Bears	Bears	Sun Devils
Florida vs. #7 Georgia 10/30	Bulldogs	Bulldogs	Bulldogs	Bulldogs	Gators
#2 Oklahoma @ #20 Ok State 10/30	Sooner	Sooners	Sooners	Sooners	Sooners
NBA					
Dallas @ Sacramento 11/2	Mavs	Kings	Kings	Kings	Mavs
Houston @ Detroit 11/2	Pistons	Pistons	Pistons	Rockets	Rockets

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well. If any game ends in a tie, it is not counted.

Football's offense shut out in 35-0 loss to Colby

Continentals turn the ball over six times; Holtslag '06 injured in third quarter

by Andrew DeCastro '05
SPORTS WRITER

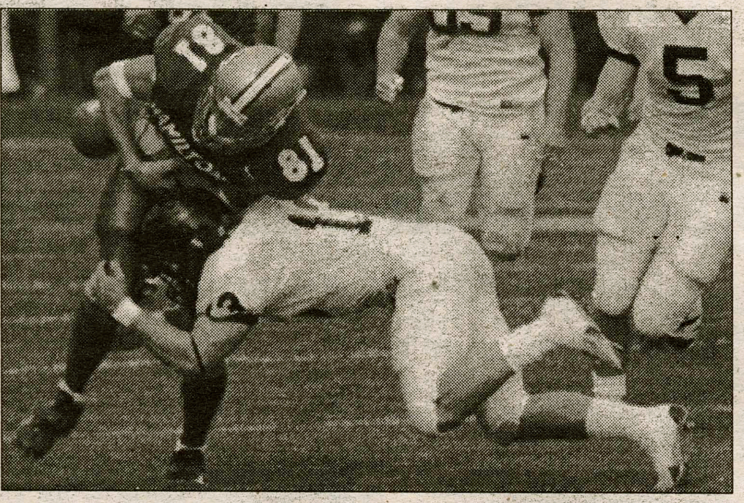


PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Hamilton will need to cut down on turnovers, especially fumbles this Saturday against Williams.

After coming back and winning one of the most exciting games in Continental history against Bowdoin, Hamilton then traveled to Colby and was shut out, 35-0. The Conts were unable to pick up their second consecutive victory against the Mules. Offensively, Hamilton ranks in the top half in the NESCAC this year, but last Saturday they were dominated by the Colby defense.

Going into the game people knew it was a battle between a good offense in Hamilton and a good defense in Colby. Clearly the defense of Colby outsmarted, out hustled, and outplayed the Hamilton offense, causing the Continentals to turn the ball over an astounding six times. Superstar quarterback Brandon Holtslag '06 struggled, throwing one interception and fumbling another time. Steve Rosato '08, Dan Hood '08, and Cladius Zorokong '08 all fumbled and Colby subsequently recovered all Hamilton fumbles. To make matters worse, late in the 3rd quarter Holtslag was sidelined with an injury, prompting Hood to get the call. Hood's only passing attempt resulted in an interception. Greg Livigne '05 was then brought into the game late in the fourth quarter, hoping to give the Colby defense a different type of quarterback. Livigne, said to have the strongest arm of all the quarterbacks, came in and was unable to pick Colby's defense apart.

Even with Holstalg sitting the fourth quarter, he was still able to gain 113 yards on 19 carries, almost six yards per carry. Aside from Holtslag, no running back was able to amass more than four yards a carry. head coach Pete Alvanos's main concern was the defensive ends of Colby. Hamilton's offensive line, probably the best group of players in four years, met the challenge and didn't allow a sack until the fourth quarter, but at a costly outcome. Starting guard Brian McFadden '07 was also sidelined with an injury and is not expected to play this weekend against Williams. Holtslag, however, is expected to play this weekend.

Defensively, the Continentals allowed the Colby quarterback to throw for 253 yards passing and four touchdowns. As Alvanos hinted last week, however, any turnover by the offense puts unnecessary pressure on the defense. Unfortunately the defense couldn't get much help from the offense, finding themselves deep in their own end trying to continually keep points off the board. Matt Pitarresi '08 led the defensive unit with 11 tackles, five of them solo. Linebackers Mike Murphy '05 and Chris Slama '05, and defensive lineman Sam Schilling '08 each recorded a sack.

"We just didn't get it done, plain and simple. There is no sense thinking about that game anymore. It's over, and now our focus is on Williams," said Murphy.

Clearly Murphy has the right attitude. Hamilton's focus is now towards the Ephs of Williams College. Hamilton will undoubtedly be playing in front of the biggest crowd at Steuben Field, with various parents and alumni attending the game.

Williams, traditionally a powerhouse in NESCAC play, has continued its strong play this season, going 4-1 in the first five games. Although Amherst and Trinity will inevitably be playing for the NESCAC crown, Williams is hoping that a spoiler can disrupt the standings, giving the Ephs an edge in the conference. Williams has dominated Hamilton over the last three years, but players are optimistic that the outcome will be different.

"Even though we've lost a couple of games, we're still up for this game. We had a great, physical, intense week of practice. We have our parents and friends coming up for this game, and we're going to have a lot of energy and emotion in this game. I'm confident that every one of my teammates will leave it all out there," Rob Kuchar '05 stated emphatically.

Field hockey says goodbye to seniors

from Hockey, page 24

Hayden tied the game with a clutch goal on the assist from Kerry Leonard '07. Regulation ended with the score tied at one. The game ended dramatically however, with the game-winning goal by Kristen Archibald '06 in over-time. The 2-1 over-time win over Union gave the Continentals their second Liberty League victory. "The outcome of the season was not what I would have hoped for, but I couldn't have asked for a greater group of girls," comments senior captain Beth Conway '05. "There is more talent on this team than I've ever played with and I truly believe that they have what it takes to turn things around next year."

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H Spectator Sports
October 29, 2004

Women's soccer continues to win

Conts will host conference tourney after beating St. Lawrence and Clarkson

by Andrew Dassori '07
SPORTS WRITER

The unbeaten women's soccer team went into this past weekend with one goal in mind: hosting the conference tournament. To achieve this goal they would have to win the rest of their conference schedule, and they did just that. The Lady Continentals continued their historic season with wins over St. Lawrence, Clarkson, and SUNY Oswego to continue their unbeaten streak and secure home field advantage throughout the conference tournament. This milestone for the program adds to the long list of achievements for this year's team which ranks 9th nationwide for Division III women's soccer.

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05
Jamie Fried (14) dribbles down the field.

In their game at St. Lawrence, the Continentals played 90 minutes of shutout soccer, winning a pivotal game by a score of 2-0. This marked the Continentals seventh shutout in eleven games. The offense was led by sophomore Sarah Felder and junior Liz Roberts. Felder's unassisted goal was her first of the season, and Roberts scored on a corner kick with just over 30 minutes left in the game.

Defensively, the Continentals were strong once again. Freshman Caitlin McGilley's play in the net was marvelous as she left the game unblemished, shutting out the Saints with nine saves.

The Continentals' final conference opponent was a surprisingly tough Clarkson team that certainly gave Hamilton a run for their money. It took the team well into the second sudden-death extra period to come away with the victory 1-0 over the Golden Knights of Clarkson. Hamilton's lone goalscorer was sophomore Kristine Cupertino who has really stepped it up in the season's final games. Her combination with fellow sophomore Eileen Fisher has been extremely exciting this season, and should be one to watch for years to come. Cupertino scored with 3:43 left in the second overtime to put the Continentals on top, 1-0. Freshmen Katie Plummer and McGilley combined for the yet another shutout. Overall, Hamilton's defense was stifling as they gave up only one shot on goal throughout the extended game.

To cap off their week, the Continentals crushed SUNY Oswego 6-0 in a Wednesday afternoon contest at Love Field. In dominant fashion, Hamilton put together six scores in the first half to give them their twelfth win of the season. Eileen Fisher sniped a goal just 13 seconds into the game, and the deluge continued to pour onto this early 1-0 lead. Goals by Taylor Brady, Maura Dropkin-Frank, and Liz Roberts followed, with freshman Emma Slane finishing the Lakers off by scoring the final two goals. The team was unstoppable again on defense as they didn't give up a shot all game. Plummer and McGilley oversaw goalkeeping duties, each playing one half.

The Continentals must now prepare for their biggest game of the season against fifth-ranked Oneonta at 11:00 this coming Saturday. This game presents the largest challenge thus far for Hamilton, and will mark the first time two nationally ranked teams have played each other at Love Field. As they approach what is perhaps this weekend's biggest game in Division III soccer, the Continentals will look to the fans for support. With parents' weekend, and many other fall sports finished, there is no better time or place to watch Hamilton's women's soccer team battle to keep their undefeated season alive.

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05
Ali Grant (19) takes the free kick for Hamilton.

Field hockey ends season with a victory over Union

by Matt Bradley '07
SPORTS WRITER

The Hamilton College women's field hockey team finished its grueling fourteen-game season last Saturday, October 23, with an exciting 2-1 overtime victory over Union College. The field hockey squad went 1-2 in its last three games, dropping its first two games to SUNY Oneonta and Skidmore, and earning a victory in the season finale against Liberty League rival Union College.

Offense proved to be Hamilton's biggest problem in its October 19 home-game against SUNY Oneonta. The Continentals were only able to throw in one second-half goal in their 1-4 loss. Jess Goldberg '08, JoJo McCann '05, Katelyn McGee '06, and Natalie Schwerin '08 combined for Hamilton's six total shots on goal. McGee notched Hamilton's only goal just 2:10 into the second half, cutting the deficit to only two. Unfortunately, the Continentals were not able to stage a comeback. SUNY Oneonta fired in one last goal to make the score 1-4 in its favor, and that's how the game would end.

Hamilton played extremely tough in its October 22 loss against Skidmore College. The Continentals earned an early 1-0 advantage against the eighteenth ranked Thoroughbreds. Goldberg knocked in an unassisted goal, Hamilton's only score against Skidmore, with 20:36 remaining in the half. Skidmore answered quickly however, scoring two goals within eighteen seconds of each other. The Thoroughbreds evened the score on a plenty corner with 16:46 left in the half. After Hamilton lost its early momentum, Skidmore capitalized, adding one more first-half goal. The half finished with Skidmore ahead, 2-1. Hamilton managed two second half shots, but they weren't enough to recharge the offense.

Hamilton managed nine shots on goal, compared to Skidmore's eleven. Eight different Continentals recorded shots against Skidmore. These players include Amy Barrows '08, Marley Berns '08, Beth Conway '05, Goldberg, Lauren Hayden '07, Jenna Lally '08, McCann, and Schwerin. Goldberg's goal against Skidmore put her atop the season scoring statistics, making her Hamilton's leading scorer with three goals. While the Continentals had bursts of offense, they ultimately dropped the Liberty League conference game 1-3.

The Continental's season finale proved to be their most exciting game of the season. The Liberty League rivalry between Hamilton and Union has always been an exciting one. The October 23 home game provided the perfect setting for Hamilton to earn its gripping overtime victory. It was a defensively dominated match-up all game. The first half finished with a 0-0 tie; Hamilton controlled Union in the shots category however, firing eight first-half shots compared to Union's four.

Union scored the game's first goal early in the second half, giving the Dutchwomen a 1-0 advantage. Several minutes later however, sophomore sensation, Lauren "Hot Stick"

*see **Hockey**, page 23*

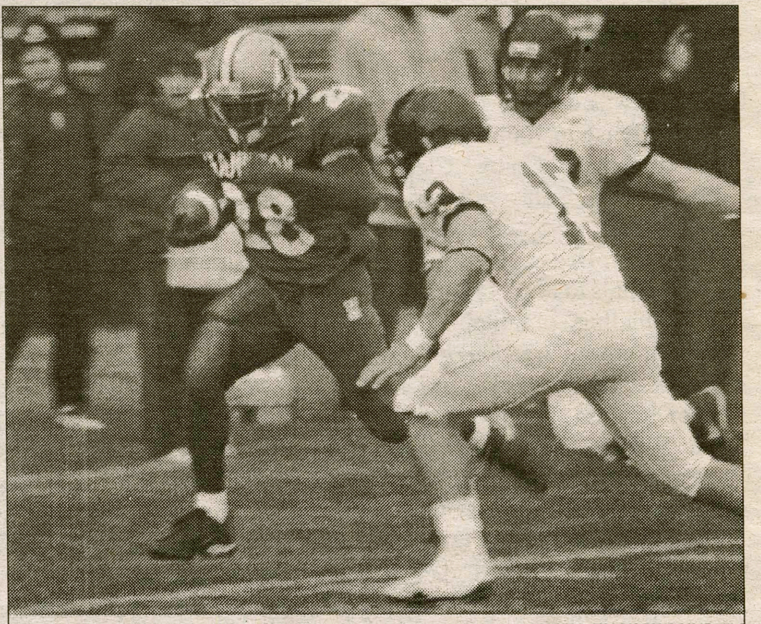
PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Hamilton football loses to Colby College, 35-0. Article on page 23.